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14 DAYS left before the start of the new fiscal year

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Ten Skechers customers from Shanghai visit Saipan for a five-day wellness holiday tour.

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Oktoberfest will be in full swing when Hyatt Regency Saipan launches it "German Fest."

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'Extend transition period to 2019'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial has asked a congressional panel to consider extending the transition period related to the federalization of CNMI immigration from the end of 2014 to the end of 2019, and to reinstate a "cover over" tax provision in the Covenant that the federalization law deleted.

The governor cited the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's failure to issue final regulations on foreign workers and for-

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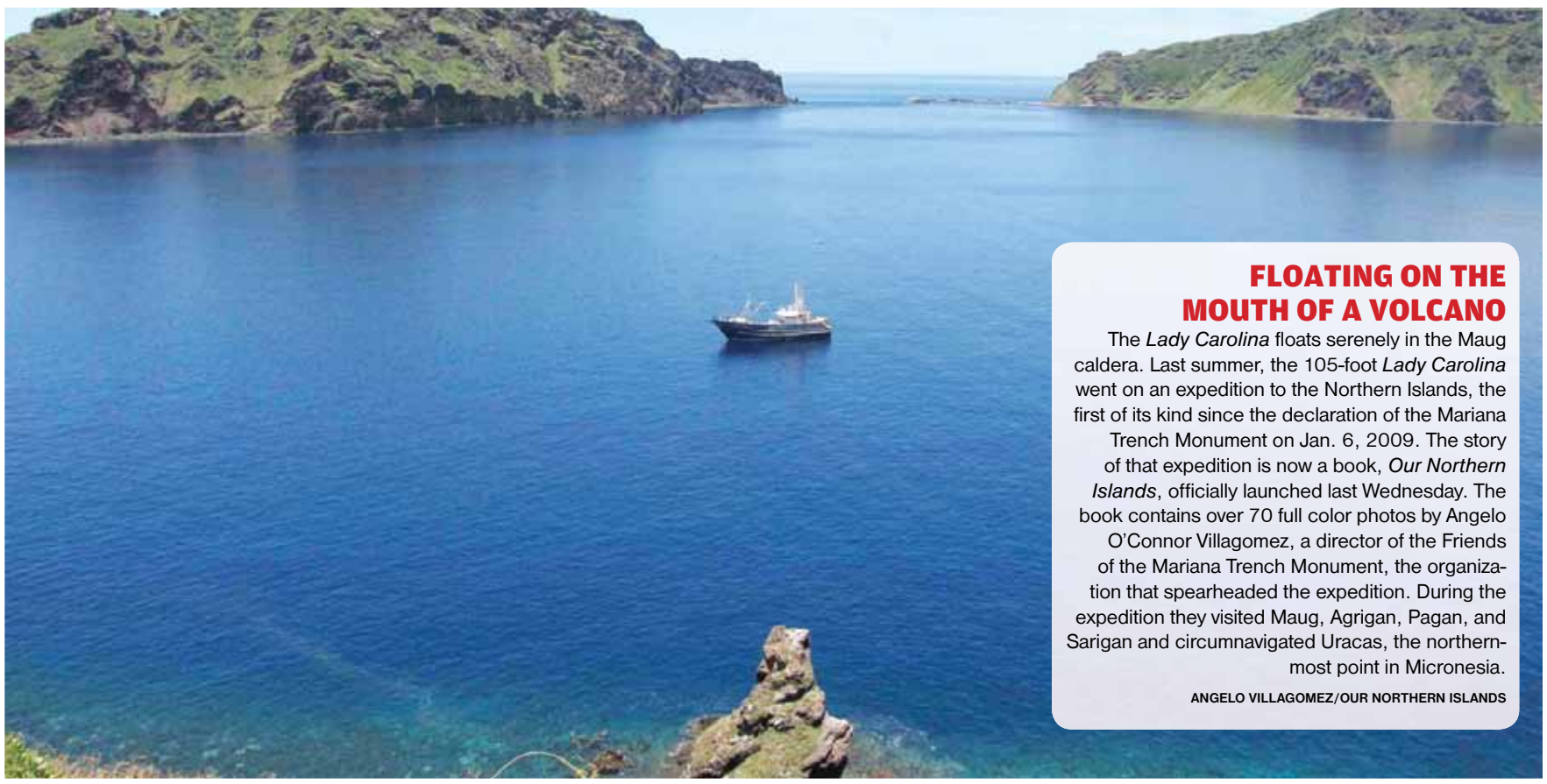

FLOATING ON THE MOUTH OF A VOLCANO

The *Lady Carolina* floats serenely in the Maug caldera. Last summer, the 105-foot *Lady Carolina* went on an expedition to the Northern Islands, the first of its kind since the declaration of the Mariana Trench Monument on Jan. 6, 2009. The story of that expedition is now a book, *Our Northern Islands*, officially launched last Wednesday. The book contains over 70 full color photos by Angelo O'Connor Villagomez, a director of the Friends of the Mariana Trench Monument, the organization that spearheaded the expedition. During the expedition they visited Maug, Agrigan, Pagan, and Sarigan and circumnavigated Uracas, the northernmost point in Micronesia.

ANGELO VILLAGOMEZ/OUR NORTHERN ISLANDS

Low water pressure plagues Koblerville

» Four water wells down in Obyan, Maui One

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

For three weeks now, Koblerville residents have been suffering from low water pressure, affecting hundreds of families and schoolchildren at the Kolberville Elementary School.

Resident Eric A. Borja said that, due

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Dialysis bldg. designer settled CNMI's $10M lawsuit for $2M

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Texas company that designed the Commonwealth Health Center's dialysis center has settled the CNMI government's $10-million lawsuit for $2 million, with no admission of liability on its side.

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OPA advises vs conflict of interest among lawmakers

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

» Torres says he's one alluded to in 'advisory opinion'

The Office of the Public Auditor has issued an "advisory opinion" stating that a lawmaker introducing, debating, or voting on legislation to re-zone certain areas to benefit his relatives is violating the Ethics Act, the CNMI Constitution and the House Rules of Procedure.

Public Auditor Michael Pai's five-page ethics opinion is limited to the facts—hypothetical or actual—presented by an entity whose

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Local

Rate increases saved CPA—audit

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The rate increases implemented at airports and seaports saved the Commonwealth Ports Authority in 2009, according to the latest independent audit report conducted on CPA last fiscal year.

Revenues for both airport and seaport divisions showed significant increases, attributed to the CPA board's decision to hike fees in both tariffs and airport charges.

The airport division was able to increase its operating revenue by $2.5 million due to a rate increase in 2008. Because of this, the division was also able to avoid failure to comply with its bond indenture agreement for fiscal year 2009.

CPA, according to the audit, expects to be in compliance with the agreement in fiscal year 2010.

CPA had hired a consultant to provide recommendations on how the agency can maintain compliance with this agreement this fiscal year. It was learned that quarterly monitoring procedures as well as austerity measures for personnel and employee benefits were put into effect in 2010.

For the seaport division, revenues increased by $1.1 million, which enabled it to be in compliance with its 1998 and 2005 bond indenture agreement.

A rate study conducted in 2008 resulted in the tariff increase in March 2009. The study was done due to the departure of the garment industry and the drastic decline in port revenue tons. Like the airport division, austerity measures and regular monitoring will continue to ensure the division will be in compliance with the bond agreements.

According to the audit report—released yesterday by the Office of the Public Auditor—total assets for the airport and seaport operations combined increased by 0.14 percent or $317,430 from $223.159 million in fiscal year 2008 to $223.476 million in fiscal year 2009.

Net assets combined also showed an increase of 3 percent or $4 million—from $156 million in fiscal year 2008 to $160 million in fiscal year 2009.

The same audit findings show that revenue for both combined operations increased by 26 percent, or $3.6 million, last fiscal year. In fiscal year 2008, combined operating revenues for both divisions totaled $13.8 million; in fiscal year 2009, $17.3 million.

However, both divisions also sustained cuts in inbound and outbound cargoes due to some factors.

Air passenger departures, or airport enplanement, showed a decline of 9 percent in fiscal year 2009, while air passenger arrivals declined by 7 percent, mainly due to the declining trend in tourist arrivals to the islands.

The inbound seaport cargo also declined by 19 percent while outbound cargo plummeted by 51 percent last fiscal year. This is due to the demise of the garment industry and the general recession of economic activity.

Meantime, because of the reduction in operating costs due to the austerity measures, both airport and seaport divisions' operating expenses decreased by 3 percent, from fiscal year 2008's $12.384 million to fiscal year 2009's $12.787 million.

The audit was conducted by Deloitte and Touche.

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Ayuyu comes out in support of zoning law

» But zoning office needs to be pro-active, creative

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

A respected businessman in the community has expressed opposition to the suspension of the zoning law but also shed light on why some object to its implementation.

McDonald's Saipan president and owner Joe Ayuyu told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that he is a firm supporter of the zoning law and its effective implementation.

"We don't throw out good things because we're having difficulties. I'd like to see that our island is positioned to develop in an orderly way in the future. I think if we do it right, our island will be positioned in such a way that it will be positive for us, not only for our people but also for visitors," he explained.

Ayuyu said he feels passionate about the zoning issue because it can help turn around the economic situation in the CNMI and other islands.

"The economies on a lot of Pacific islands are in a pretty bad shape, even around the world. This is our opportunity to position our islands for what's going to come in the future. If the economy was to rebound and more tourists are going to be traveling, they're going to be looking for destinations that are clean, safe, and a beautiful place to visit," said Ayuyu.

While he recognizes the zoning-related problems and concerns raised by some members of the community, Ayuyu said the suspension of the contested Saipan Zoning Law of 2008 is not the way to address the situation.

Ayuyu

"I think it's a step in the wrong direction if we're going to suspend it or to eliminate it. Our community has worked so long to get the zoning legislation in place," he said.

Ayuyu said he decided to come out and voice his opinion because he firmly believes that there are a lot of good things that come out of proper zoning.

The two-time president of Saipan Chamber of Commerce recalled that the primary objective of having a comprehensive zoning law in place is to address problems like adult businesses in Garapan or unsightly little stores that turn up just about anywhere and block the right of way.

Ayuyu believes that the public's criticism against zoning stems from their frustrating experiences with the office.

"A lot of it has to do with frustrations by individuals and maybe business establishments that they're not getting satisfactory response from the zoning office," he said.

Since the law is "wide-encompassing," Ayuyu believes that the task at hand can be quite overwhelming for the zoning board and office.

"My suggestion really is for a need to focus on a few items at a time," said the McDonald's owner.

Ayuyu said the zoning office needs to take a pro-active approach in handling zoning applications to avoid delays and prevent frustration from clients.

He said they should be creative and innovative and use common sense in dealing with different zoning issues.

While Ayuyu admits that the zoning law has flaws, he reiterated his position "to stick to the zoning law," adding that the zoning office should learn to work with the public.

"As a businessman, I'm urging the new administrator to continue the streamlining and be a little bit more forthcoming and responsive to customers. The community, they know that zoning is good. You just need to work with them," he said.

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High Court affirms decision in CIC vs Guerrero Brothers suit

On Thursday, Sept. 9, 2010, the Supreme Court issued a unanimous decision affirming a lower court's decision in *Century Insurance Company Ltd., v. Guerrero Brothers Inc*. The Supreme Court found that, although PSS promised Guerrero Brothers Inc. that it would deposit the remaining Tinian High School funds into the court while the legal owner of the money was determined, Guerrero Brothers Inc. had no legal right to the money and was not harmed by PSS' failure to deposit the funds with the court.

The lawsuit originally stemmed from the construction of Tinian High School. PSS hired Guerrero Brothers to build the school, but due to numerous problems, PSS terminated Guerrero Brothers' contract and Century Insurance Co., the bonding company, was forced to finish construction. PSS and Guerrero Brothers tried to settle their differences, and eventually the parties entered into a settlement agreement where PSS promised to deposit the remaining funds for the high school construction project so that the ownership of the money could be determined. There was approximately $800,000 of funds remaining.

Instead of depositing the money with the court as it had agreed, PSS transferred all of the remaining construction funds to Century Insurance because Century Insurance was the party who actually finished the construction of the high school. The Supreme Court held that the transfer of the funds to Century Insurance was proper because pursuant to a legal doctrine called "equitable subrogation," Century Insurance was entitled to the money as a matter of law. Equitable subrogation mandates that when a bonding company completes a construction contract, it gets paid what it is owed *first* and if the contractor is still owed money, it is only paid if there are still available funds.

The Supreme Court held that while PSS breached the settlement agreement by failing to deposit the remaining contract funds, Guerrero Brothers suffered no harm from the breach because it had no legal claim to the money. While the breach of a settlement agreement often results in damages, in this case Guerrero Brothers could not show that it suffered any harm because all of the remaining proceeds were properly paid to Century Insurance.

WATER

From Page 1

to unscheduled water interruptions and at times very low water pressure, many families are forced to buy bottled water to sustain their needs.

Borja criticized the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. for its inability to inform and update affected residents of the real situation. He said they remain clueless as to what is causing the problem.

Calls to the CUC, he said, were never returned.

"It's just so frustrating that residents have to bear this problem when they continue to pay for their water bills. It seems that they're fast in disconnecting lines than addressing our real concerns," Borja told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Other residents who raised the same concern asked not to be identified but they pointed out it's high time that people demand quality service from the utility firm in exchange for the rate it is charging.

CUC assistant executive director Abe Utu Malae explained yesterday that four wells are currently down—three wells at Obyan and the Maui One shaft—resulting in water rationing and low water pressure in Koblerville.

"To make matters worse, the high pressure of the well pumps went down, causing more leaks," he said.

The leaks are now being addressed one by one by a CUC crew headed by Melvin Tudela, he added.

These leaks can be seen at the traffic lights near Guangdong Hardware and one near the Marianas Baptist Church, which was repaired yesterday.

"We hope to improve water pressure by tomorrow evening," said Malae yesterday.

In San Vicente, where residents also suffer from the same problem, Malae said the area has its own problems that he considers "very serious."

"[It's] very serious indeed as the old lines were capped and the new lines brought up. GPPC Inc. is our contractor there and we have an inspector helping CUC," said Malae, adding that Taga Mart and a dozen other families were also without water for an extended period.

Malae said a CUC crew led by Glenn Dikito is now working on meters in order to meet stipulated order requirements.

He said they also have skeleton crews trying to repair the leaks and get the system back to normal. George Babauta is the head electrician working on the motors and controls.

Malae disclosed that one of the most experienced "water watch" crew leaders of CUC—Ed Olaiteman—had passed away while water and wastewater manager Mariano Iglesias is currently off-island.

DIALYSIS

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According to documents obtained by *Saipan Tribune* yesterday, Leo A. Daly Co. shall pay the $2 million to the CNMI on or before 20 days after the execution of the settlement agreement. It was not immediately learned if the money has already been turned over to the CNMI.

Of the $2 million, $318,000 is stipulated to be for design changes, while the balance represent alleged general loss of use damages to the CNMI.

The CNMI and Leo A. Daly Co. agreed that the settlement shall never be treated as an admission of liability of any settling party.

U.S. District Court for the NMI visiting judge Robert Bryan had dismissed with prejudice the CNMI government's lawsuit against Leo A. Daly Co. sometime in the last week of August. Dismissed with prejudice means the case cannot be re-opened.

Bryan ordered that each party should shoulder their own attorney's fees and court costs.

Bryan had pointed out, though, that the order for dismissal does not apply to Leo A. Daly Co.'s third party complaint.

Leo A. Daly Co. had filed a third-party complaint against Moss Engineering, Michael Hattori & Associates, Geotesting Inc., Juan C. Tenorio & Associates Consulting Engineers, and several unnamed third party co-defendants.

The federal court's clerk of court recently entered a default judgment against Juan C. Tenorio & Associates for not responding to Leo A. Daly's lawsuit.

Saipan Tribune learned that the settlement between the CNMI and Leo A. Daly Co. was reached after two days of negotiations. The parties appeared at the settlement conference in Idaho, overseen by former U.S. District Court for the NMI judge Alex Munson.

As further consideration in the settlement, the CNMI assigned to Leo A. Daly Co. any and all claims it has or may have against any of Leo A. Daly Co.'s subconsultants.

The CNMI government, through former Attorney General Matthew T. Gregory, filed the lawsuit against Leo A. Daly Co. in 2009 over the alleged defective building plan of the dialysis center. The Alaska-based Law Offices of William R. Sattersberg Jr. then filed before the federal court an entry of appearances to represent the CNMI in the case.

The law offices of Weil & Drage in Las Vegas served as counsel for Leo A. Daly Co.

The dialysis center project started out as a $5 million undertaking during the Juan N. Babauta administration. It ballooned into a $22-million project in the course of its five-year construction.

EXTEND

From Page 1

eign investors/foreign students, as well as DHS' failure to develop and enforce "an effective program to identify and remove illegal aliens" in the CNMI as reasons for the need to extend the transition.

These are part of Fitial's 11-page written testimony to the U.S. House Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife, which held a Sept. 16 oversight hearing in Washington, D.C. on H.R. 6015.

"Consideration of this amendment seems particularly appropriate because of (a) the delay by DHS in issuing the necessary regulations; and (b) the uncertainty engendered by DHS' legal position as to whether in fact the Secretary of Labor has the authority to extend the transition period," Fitial said.

HR 6015, introduced by subcommittee chair Delegate Madeleine Bordallo (D-Guam), has two major sections, including two proposed technical corrections to the immigration provisions contained in the Consolidated Natural Resources Act that are applicable to the CNMI and Guam.

The CNRA, signed in May 2008, is the law that placed CNMI immigration under federal control on Nov. 28, 2009.

HR 6015 also requires the director of the U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of Economic Analysis to publish certain economic data on territories and Freely Associated States.

The governor believes that the U.S. Congress intended that an extension of the transition period by the U.S. Labor Secretary would also mean extending the two other programs that CNRA authorizes: numerical limitations on H visas, and CNMI-only nonimmigrant investor visa program.

He said despite frequent requests by the CNMI, DHS has never provided any written opinion in support of its interpretation of the CNRA.

"This Subcommittee may wish to make a similar request of DHS so that the Subcommittee can evaluate the conflicting opinions before it acts on H.R. 6015," Fitial said.

The governor reiterated the CNMI's frustration with the interim final rule regarding the joint Guam-CNMI visa waiver, and the exclusion of China and Russia from the list of approved countries.

In his written testimony, Fitial also said that DHS has not developed and enforced an effective program to identify and remove illegal aliens in the CNMI.

"The number of illegal aliens in the Commonwealth is expanding rapidly, now that federal controls are in place, for three reasons," Fitial said.

These reasons include "a perceived lack of enforcement by federal officials leads to illegal aliens to conclude that there is no risk to staying" in the CNMI; "some federal officials have repeatedly suggested that green cards will be available to any alien who is in the Commonwealth when Congress addresses this questions;" and "new federal policies with respect to food stamp assistance and free medical care allow these benefits to be claimed by illegal aliens."

"Under these circumstances, voluntary repatriation by aliens in the Commonwealth has almost entirely disappeared," Fitial added.

The governor also asked the Subcommittee to reinstate the "cover over language" in the Covenant that the CNRA eliminated.

"Cover over" refers to the return to local governments of taxes paid to federal agencies by residents of insular areas.

"The effect of this amendment will be to deny the Commonwealth tens of millions of dollars over time—and places the full financial burden of applying the immigration laws on the Commonwealth and its residents rather than assumed by the nation as a whole whose national security was believed to require this congressional action," he added.

Oversight hearing

The oversight hearing in Washington, D.C. was during the wee hours of this morning Saipan time.

Besides HR 6015, Bordallo's Subcommittee also held an oversight hearing on CNMI Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan's HR 4339, which creates the Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Fellowship Act.

Among those scheduled to testify on the two measures were Assistant Interior Secretary for Insular Affairs Tony Babauta, Fitial's legal counsel Howard P. Willens, Guam Visitors Bureau vice chair Lamonte J. "Jim" Beighley, and former CNMI Board of Education member Anthony Pellegrino.

OPA

From Page 1

identity has been withheld by OPA.

Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan) said yesterday that he's the lawmaker alluded to in the OPA advisory opinion, and alleged that the entity that requested OPA for an advisory opinion is the Saipan Zoning Office, its officials, or commission members.

Torres has been critical of the Saipan Zoning Office's operations and decisions, and he always finds himself at odds with the office.

"This is a clear retaliation from Zoning, whether a staff or a board member. OPA also did not contact me to ask me questions or to clarify things. I did not vote on bills to benefit only my relatives," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Saipan Zoning Board chair Herminia Fusco, when reached by phone, said she does not want to comment on the issue.

The public auditor said the requesting party asked OPA whether it is permissible under the Ethics Act for a member of the House of Representatives and the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation to introduce or vote on legislation that seeks to re-zone certain areas on Saipan.

Pai said the request further specified that the re-zones were not part of a greater plan to re-zone Saipan, and that each re-zoned area was discrete in size and included parcels of land owned by the lawmaker's brother, nephew and other individuals related by marriage.

Torres, in a phone interview, said he voted and debated on local re-zoning bills that he said also benefited his brother and the son of his wife's brother, as well as other community members not related to him.

The public auditor, in his conclusion, said the Ethics Act, Constitution and House Rules of Procedure all prohibit legislators from influencing, introducing, voting or debating on legislation that benefits relatives to any degree greater than as members of the general public.

Pai said that, had the legislation created an island wide re-zone or affected larger areas of land, only a small portion of which was owned by relatives of the legislator, disclosure on the record of the potential conflict and recusal could likely have cured the conflict of interest.

"However, the facts as presented indicate a direct conflict of interest where individual plots of land owned by relatives were re-zoned by the legislation, which was not part of a greater legislative scheme to revisit the zoning designations of the zoning law," Pai said.

The public auditor added that the legislator not only debated and voted on the matter, but actually introduced it, reinforcing the notion that the conflict was neither accidental nor passive.

"The scenario presented by the requesting party constituted violations of the Ethics Act, the Commonwealth Constitution, and the House of Representatives Rules of Procedures," Pai said.

One of the most recent zoning bills signed into law is House Local Bill 17-2, Draft 2, which became Saipan Local Law 17-2. The bill, introduced by Rep. Ray A. Tebuteb (R-Saipan) and Rep. Diego T. Benavente (R-Saipan), amends the Saipan Zoning Law of 2008 to rezone four areas to village commercial areas. Torres said his relatives were helped by this new local law.

Torres also has a local bill seeking to suspend the Saipan Zoning Law of 2008.

BOE cuts school repairs to cover teachers' payroll, operations

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Board of Education and the Public School System have revised their application for the second phase of the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund to reflect the diversion of $5 million from school repairs to teachers' payroll and operations.

PSS stands to receive $32.3 million of the $44 million education fund for the CNMI. Last year, it received the first phase of the stimulus fund, amounting to $24.3 million, which it used to restore teacher and counselor positions and to repair 20 public schools on Saipan, Rota, and Tinian. The remaining funds are expected anytime this year.

For phase II, the board and the PSS reduced the projected expenditures for repairs and modernization of schools by $3 million, cut the projected expenses for career and technical education by $1.5 million, and slashed the projected expenditure for administrative costs by $0.5 million.

The $5 million cut from these expenses will be used to fund teachers' payroll and school operations in four elementary schools on Saipan.

The board approved the changes at its last board meeting.

Of the $5 million, Garapan Elementary School will get $1.7 million to cover personnel cost ($1.5 million) and utilities ($196,000) starting fiscal year 2011.

Dandan Elementary School will get $983,189, of which $863,000 will be used for teachers' salary and $120,000 for the school's utilities.

William S. Reyes Elementary School will be earmarked $1.3 million for personnel and $174,000 for utilities.

Tanapag Elementary School expects to receive $766,806, with $712,194 going toward personnel costs and $54,612 for power consumption.

PSS said that, without the necessary funding for these areas, it may be forced to let go of many personnel.

It cited the 20 percent reduction in local revenues in the last two years, the demise of the garment industry, and declining tourist arrivals as factors behind the ailing island economy.

The Legislature is proposing a $30.1 million budget for PSS in fiscal year 2011. This is lower than last fiscal year's $34.2 million.

The CNMI government projects revenue to reach just $132 million in fiscal year 2011, which starts on Oct. 1.

CNMI, DHS update MOA on security procedures

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham and Department of Public Safety Commissioner Santiago F. Tudela met with U.S. Department of Homeland Security officials yesterday to assess a nearly three-month-old memorandum of agreement between the CNMI and DHS on certain security procedures.

Buckingham

Buckingham and Tudela met DHS District Commander Stella Meyerhoff and DHS inspector Simon Jones on Capital Hill.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune*, Buckingham said Meyerhoff and Jones expressed appreciation to DPS and the Office of the Attorney General for their cooperation and the success of the accord.

"We are seeking opportunities to work collaboratively with federal agencies on areas of common interest. We are glad that we could put this agreement into effect," Buckingham said.

He said they are also grateful for the thanks expressed by DHS for the success of this effort.

The CNMI and the Federal Protective Service executed the agreement in June 2010, agreeing to meet quarterly to assess how the arrangement is working.

"We have also agreed that if we have issues or problems prior to our regular meeting, we will be in touch with each other immediately so we can review and resolve any problem area," Buckingham said.

Since signing the agreement, Buckingham said they have not encountered any problems.

One of the areas they worked on together was the recent crash of a vehicle into the courtroom of the U.S. District Court for the NMI, he said.

The Federal Protective Service has responsibilities for federal facilities within the CNMI.

"The cooperation between Commonwealth law enforcement and the Federal Protective Service was appreciated," Buckingham said.

He said they updated the agreement to reflect the signature of Federal Protective Service regional director Ralph McNamara.

"We have executed a new version of the agreement effective today," he said.

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WORLD RESORT

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OPEN DATE:	SEPT. 16, 2010	**POSITION:**	Water Park Assistant Manager or Supervisor
CLOSE DATE:	SEPT. 24, 2010	**SALARY:**	Depend on Qualification

Job Qualification: High school graduate, plus 3 years experience in sports, recreation, and hospitality.
Must have a good knowledge of administrative functions and good public relation skills.

OPEN DATE:	SEPT. 16, 2010	**POSITION:**	Russian Guest Relation Officer/Front Office
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For more information you may contact Miriam K. Seman, Manager for Human Resources Department at (670) 234-5900 ext. 274.

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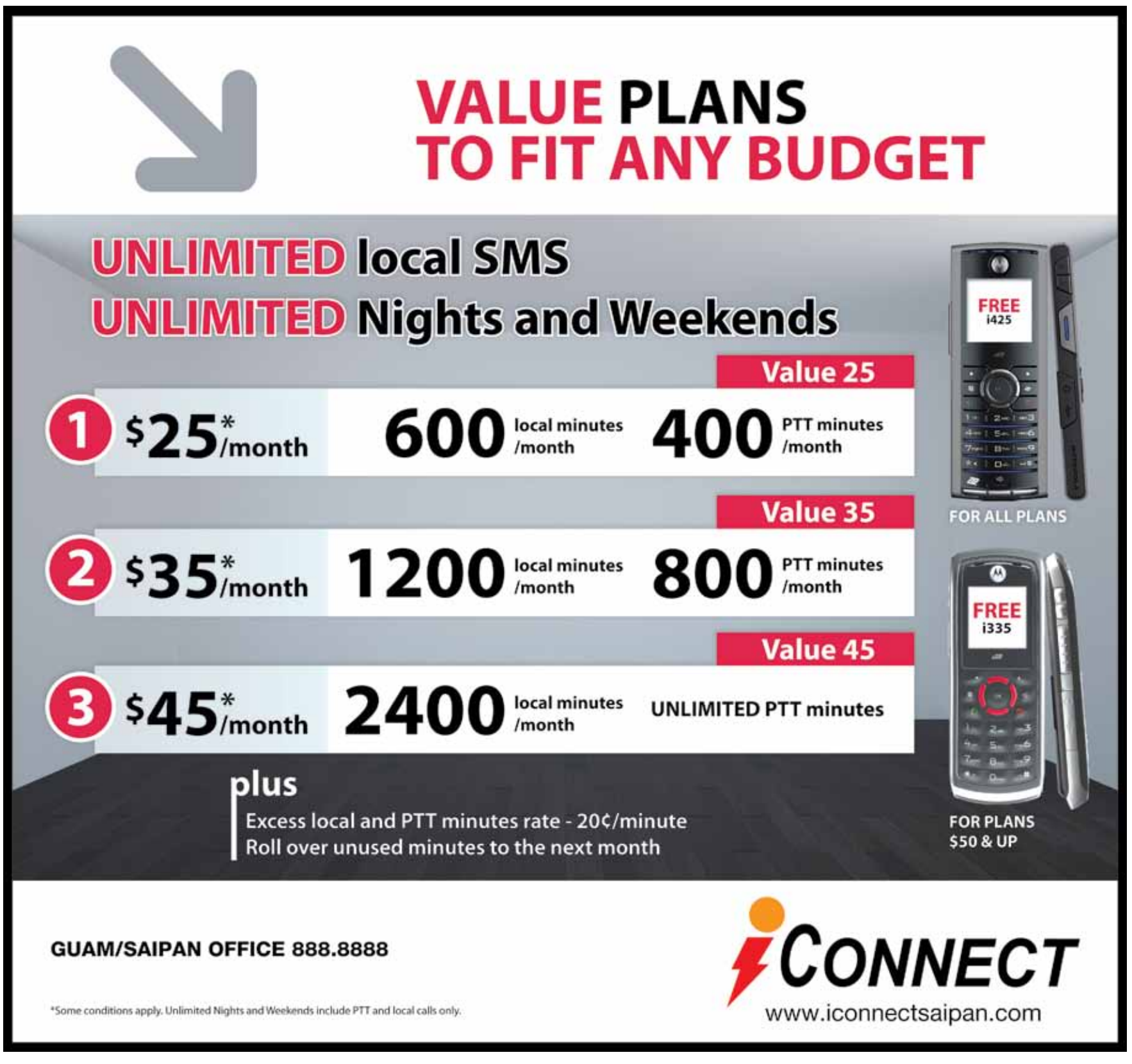

2 more charges against Kagman detention guard

» Prosecution finds two more alleged victims

The U.S. government added yesterday two more charges against Tyron Farley Reyes Fitial, the detention guard who allegedly used his position at the Kagman Juvenile Detention to force three female wards to engage in sex acts.

Assistant U.S. Attorney James J. Benedetto filed a superseding indictment that charged the 24-year-old Fitial with two counts of deprivation of rights under color of law and one count of enticement of a minor.

This is on top of the original indictment that charged Fitial with one count of deprivation of rights under color of law. That case cited only one victim.

Attorney Joseph James Norita Camacho, counsel for the Fitial, told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that he will meet with his client, who is presently detained at the Department of Corrections, to discuss the new charges.

According to the superseding indictment, on or about October 2009 through February 2010, Fitial, while acting under color law, kicked and hit a minor and forced the victim to engage in sexual acts.

The offense allegedly resulted in bodily injury, and involved acts of aggravated sexual abuse against the minor—a ward of the Kagman Juvenile Detention and Correctional Facility.

In that same period, Fitial allegedly subjected another minor to coerced sexual acts.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation arrested Fitial on June 11 after the filing of the indictment.

He has pleaded not guilty.

4 Rota beach sites red-flagged

The Division of Environment Quality has red-flagged four beach sites on Rota—the Mobil storm drainage, East Harbor Marina, District 1 storm drainage and the Veterans Memorial—and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

DEQ said that samples collected from these locations had excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

Water samples were taken from 12 marine recreational and storm drainage locations on Rota this week. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. ***(DEQ)***

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NMI firefighter to be inducted into nat'l memorial

The 29th annual National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service will honor a Northern Mariana Islands firefighter who died in the line of the duty in 2007.

The late Ernie Teigita Dela Cruz will be among the 80 firefighters who died in 2009 and 25 firefighters who died in previous years who will be remembered at the official national service held at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

Dela Cruz, 38, of the Department of Public Safety Fire Division, died after suffering a heart attack within 24 hours of responding to multiple incidents on March 12, 2007.

He will be the first for the Commonwealth who will be inducted into the National Firefighters Memorial at the National Fire Academy on Oct. 3, 2010.

Dela Cruz

Fire Chief Thomas M. Manglona has requested that all U.S. and CNMI flags be flown at half-staff on Oct. 4, 2010, to coincide with the precise moment when Dela Cruz will be given this tribute. The late Firefighter Dela Cruz's wife and children will be attending the special ceremony.

"Let it be known that although this will be a somber moment for his wife, children, and parents that we have not forgotten, and we will not forget his contribution to the Department of Public Safety, Fire Division, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands," said Manglona.

Dela Cruz was honorably mentioned during the Police Week in May 2010 but an official honorary memorial will be given in October 2010 for the National Fire Prevention week here in the CNMI.

The National Fallen Firefighter Foundation and the Department of Homeland Security will sponsor the official national tribute.

National Fire Prevention Week was designated by President Obama to focus national attention on the destruction of property and loss of life caused by fire. As first responders to all natural and man-made emergencies, fire service personnel are in constant danger. During 2009, 80 firefighters died in the line of duty, making firefighting one of the nation's most dangerous occupations.

More than 5,000 people, including members of Congress, administration officials and other dignitaries, members of the fire services, and families and friends of the fallen firefighters will attend the event. Families will receive flags flown over the U.S. Capitol and the National Memorial. ***(DPS)***

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Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Sept. 17, 1999

CPA mulls lifting of reduced man-hours

With little signs of improvement in its financial condition, the Commonwealth Ports Authority is studying the possibility of reinstating the 80-hour pay period, according to its executive director. In a memorandum to employees, Carlos H. Salas commended the CPA staff for continuously striving to achieve excellence in carrying out their jobs despite the reduction in man-hours. "While the implementation of a 72-hour pay period has not been easy, I am happy to report that thanks to your dedication and commitment, service and safety have not suffered in the slightest degree," said Salas.

BOE awaits Senate's decision on Manglona's case

The Senate seat vacated by Tinian Sen. Herman Manglona would be included in the coming midterm elections if the Senate leadership declares a vacancy in that position, an election official said yesterday. "We will wait for the Senate to notify us on whatever decision they would come up with regarding Sen. Manglona's position," said Gregorio C. Sablan, executive director of the Board of Elections. Manglona, who is facing possible corruption charges, resigned Wednesday, citing "personal reasons." His resignation was effective immediately.

Sept. 17, 2001

CNMI joins observance of National Day of Mourning

The CNMI community on Friday joined thousands of their fellow Americans in heeding the call of President George Bush to observe a national day of prayer in remembrance of the victims of the September 11 terror attack in New York and Washington. At least two hundred people attended a candlelight procession that began from the Kristo Rai Church, culminating at the American Memorial Park where Father Ike Ayuyu lead a short religious service, offering prayers to the victims as well as the survivors of the worst terrorist attack against the United States. The marchers, composed mainly of the youth, joined hands with their parents and elders as they marched along Beach Road.

Power plant project delay irks House panel

Fed up over the delay in the resolution of the Saipan power plant project, a House committee has summoned officials of both the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and Enron Guam Piti Corp. to a meeting aimed at identifying and discussion the issues that are bogging down the resumption of negotiations between the two agencies. Chairman Rep. Rosiky F. Camacho of the House Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation and Communication said that he has called officials of both CUC and Enron to a committee meeting on September 25 at the House chamber where they intend to thresh out the reasons for the delay in the resumption of the power plant project.

Sept. 17, 2002

More youths went out to vote

More youths went out to support the candidates of their choice by casting their votes at yesterday's 5th Youth Congress polls--a good turnout that Legislative Bureau officials attributed to more visible campaigning among candidates this year. Before the elections, some candidates reportedly staged campaign sorties such as motorcades, where they expressed firm intent to run for the youth senatorial position. "Actually at Saipan Southern High School, I could see that they seemed more enthusiastic about it," said Legislative Assistant Francine Sablan. "We had quite a number of students who went to the school cafeteria to cast their votes. So it was a great turnout, which could be attributed to more campaigning that occurred this year."

Man'amko eyed to tutor NMI youths

Rep. William S. Torres has floated the possibility of tapping the services of the CNMI's elderly in mentoring kids and teenagers at the soon-to-be unveiled Gualo Rai Children's Park and Youth Center, a one-hectare recreational complex built for after-school and family activities. The congressman, in a letter to the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, requested Secretary Juan L. Babauta to consider sending at most two participants under the federal Senior Community Service Employment Program to tutor and spend time with the children at the center when it opens this October. "We figured we could make use of the talents and the vast experiences of our manamko to guide our youth. This is a good and excellent way of utilizing the skills of our manamko and making them models for our youth," Torres said yesterday.

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Opinion

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EDITORIAL

Developing countries: Better off green than gold

By ANTHONY ZINNI
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Recently the Department of Defense reported that the value of Afghanistan's reserves of iron, copper, cobalt, gold and other strategic minerals approached $1 trillion. Some have started calling this financially strapped nation the Saudi Arabia of lithium. Even Zimbabwe, one of the poorest countries in the world, could vault into the top ranks of the world's diamond producers, according to a U.N. announcement. It sounds so hopeful, yet in fact we see very few examples of nations where mineral wealth has led to peace and prosperity.

Instead, gold and other rare minerals in Congo have helped to finance that region's longstanding conflicts. Oil drilling in Niger has enriched politicians while creating few jobs for local people. And Sierra Leone's diamonds have funded a violent national crime syndicate.

If developing nations are looking toward natural resources as a way to help break the cycle of poverty and conflict, their hopes may not be misplaced. But they could be looking at the wrong resources.

A recent study by the Center for a New American Security examined how environmental degradation, poverty, migration, conflict, weak societal institutions and failed states form a feedback loop. It found that loss of "green" natural resources, such as forests, fresh water, fish and fertile soils, can play a significant role in driving instability and conflict. In fact, possessing green wealth may contribute more to peace and prosperity than gold, diamonds or lithium.

Environmental degradation by itself, of course, doesn't automatically lead to conflict, for the linkages are complex. But ample evidence indicates that the desperation, hopelessness and displacement of people that can come from exhausted green resources can encourage conflict and even failed states.

According to an analysis by the United Nations, at least 11 violent struggles since 1990 have been fueled in part by the degradation of forests, fish, water or soils. While these connections are usually ignored by the media, environmental decline has played a role in several conflicts critical to U.S. interests.

In one key example, the center's report describes how the lack of access to fish stocks helped turn desperate Somali fishermen into pirates, requiring an increased U.S. military presence in the region. And it makes clear how the shifting loyalties of impoverished rural Afghans become more logical when considering that soil erosion and deforestation have put 75 percent of the country's land area on the brink of becoming barren desert.

Protecting green wealth in the developing world offers far greater potential for peace and prosperity than exploiting mineral resources for three reasons. First, access to the economic benefits that environmental resources provide is far more broadly and democratically shared than that of minerals, which are typically controlled by a single company, government agency or sometimes a foreign country.

Second, protecting the environment requires cooperation, participation and openness. It's no surprise that in some of the world's most autocratic countries, many of the only open, democratic institutions are local forest councils and water boards.

And finally, mineral stocks eventually run out, encouraging a "gold rush" mentality that defeats longer term considerations.

See DEVELOPING on Page 14

My name is Mo Mo

Editor's Note: The following is the continuation of a story the author began telling in yesterday's edition, titled Tinian Mafia Lady, *narrated from a first-person perspective.*

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section.*

I am somebody. "Someone" is Mo Mo in Korean. But I am neither self-effacing or over-bearing. Now a felon, and on drugs no less, I am not one of the USCIS' favored aliens. I did my time, much more than the current spate of sentenced ice dealers who are being meted out short and suspended sentences. That's fine. Maybe the corrections facility is full, or the units too expensive for the empty government coffers, or somebody knows someone. It does not matter anymore. What matters is that I discovered I am somebody. I was called "Mo Mo" by a Korean tour guide on Tinian when I was running a karaoke cub and restaurant. It was his way of saying, "Hey, Ms. Someone." It got stuck. I am real. Send me a vile thought to *tinianlady2010@yahoo.com* and I'll say, "ooooh!"

I did not always feel like someone. I was just like most faceless alien workers with a passport, an interchangeable document among Chinese on Saipan. Fellow workers, after feeling exploited in sewing machine row, went home on vacation and returned with two passports, took on two personas to faze Immigration and Labor with a vengeance. Stealing someone else's passport also became a game before it was a crime. Reporting it stolen became a convenient excuse not to leave when you had to since it took awhile to get a replacement from L.A. But one did not normally bother to be somebody. In fact, it was a liability to be known too widely or by the authorities. One stayed incognito as much as possible since all Chinese look alike anyway.

April 14, 2009, changed that for me. I was scheduled for release from prison, and put on a plane home. "Immediately," the court said. Except someone conveniently misplaced my passport, and though I had informed the court and the Public Safety office that it was going to expire while I was incarcerated, nobody seemed to care. I am being polite. No one cared. After all, I was just a Chinese who violated the law. I languished in a jail cell for 88 more days beyond my sentence.

Making money was the reason I came to Saipan. Obeying the law was a matter of convenience, and if not convenient, just pay someone to get your way, and everyone is happy. I paid my way, and then some.

Making money is a Chinese pastime, like playing *mahjong*. The rush while making a profit is a physical high but mind you, it is the rush first before the profit. That is why we gamble. We greet each other on special occasions with the smell and crispness of newly pressed *renminbi* (China's currency). On New Year's Day, we greet each other literally with the wish that money keeps coming our way the rest of the year. We practiced economic co-prosperity sphere long before the Japanese gave it a military coloration.

Adrenaline high is worth the effort and expenditure. We pay the price and we know how to segment the process. Every commercial transaction is an end to itself. To earn or lose in one transaction is a culmination. It is a cyclical rush that either ends in despair or jubilation. We go for the juggernaut when we smell blood. We are ruthless behind our mask of goodwill; we do bother with civility and good manners. It is our *yin-yang,* you see, both ruthless and convivial at the same time.

As a labor peon, I was exploited. In turn, I took advantage of the apparent weakness of the population, and like the opium dens that the British supplied for the aristocratic Hans, I became an accessible source of America's play drug, "ice." The number of "good" people using it became a false sense of security and comfort. Security in the sense that I thought I would have people to run to and provide me cover were I to run afoul with the law. Comfort in that, if they are using it, it must be safe for me to use it as well. I was wrong on both counts. I was vulnerable in both greed and pleasure, and I became a victim of my own excesses.

No detox remedy was available in jail. I just cold-turkeyed when meth was no longer affordable, though God knows, it was accessible even behind bars. When I came out and friends offered me the stuff, I was surprised to find the fortitude to say "No." That's because someone, or some office, deigned to treat me like a "nobody" and left me to languish in jail without even a "boo." I am a nobody for as long as I allow my civil rights to be violated. I may not be a citizen but if there is anything I learned in my sojourn, American law cannot easily be taken for granted.

I was ready to play prodigal daughter, return to kid and kin but I was not extended the courtesy. I finally had enough sense to engage a lawyer, and the charged AG officer attempted to railroad my deportation when my lawyer was distracted. Known to be partial to cats, she fell short on the treatment of human resource. But for the eleventh hour intervention of a judge, and a strategic lying low while CNMI immigration tried to locate our whereabouts, ticketed for Harbin, Heilongjiang, not my home of origin, my deportation was stayed.

It has been a year since we filed a court case. It is now before the federal court. I am heading home at my own cost to visit after a decade of absence. I would have left "Mo Mo" behind but now I wear the name as a badge of affirmation. I am somebody; do not tread on me! (Gee, I even learned to be American!) I shall return.

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Meet Asia's largest economy

By ED STEPHENS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at TropicalEd.com. Ed is a pilot, economist, and writer. He holds a degree in economics from UCLA and is a former U.S. naval officer. His column runs every Friday.

Want some freaky economic information about Saipan's economic backyard? OK, here you go: A decade ago, Japan's economy was over four times the size of China's; yet now, China's economy is actually larger than Japan's.

In fact, since 1999 China has gone from being the world's No. 7 economy to being the world's No. 2 economy, second only to the U.S. This, of course, makes China the largest economy in Asia.

Running the same comparison vs. Uncle Sam goes like so: In 1999, China's economy was only 12 percent of the size of the U.S. economy. By the end of this year, according to IMF estimates, China will hit $5.5 trillion in GDP. Which is to say, since 1999 it will have tripled its size relative to the U.S. I put things in these terms to illustrate where the growth is; Uncle Sam is far ahead, but China is running a lot faster.

> *So, will China's economy become No. 1? Yes. What year will that be? I have no idea.*

Still going with yearend estimates for 2010, if we add up the size of the Chinese, Japanese, South Korean, and Taiwanese economies (all of which have had commercial ties to the Commonwealth), we get $12 trillion in economic output, which is to say, gross domestic product, for the foursome. In just a few years, this foursome will be larger than the U.S. economy (about $14.8 trillion at 2010's end, if it doesn't fall off a cliff first), due largely to the strong growth in China and South Korea.

If you've been slumming in my ignominious column for a long time, you'll know that since the outset, for well over a decade, I've said loud and clear that industrial Asia was going to eclipse the West as the world's economic beacon. That didn't take any crystal ball to figure out: After all, I went to school with those guys, and I knew who my competition was.

Looking back at China specifically, there's all sort of speculation about when the Chinese economy will claim the No. 1 spot from Uncle Sam.

And that's just what it is: Speculation.

For one thing, though China is second, it is a very distant second, which means that if we use current trajectories as a guide, we're still looking at time spans on the order of over a decade, and that's simply too far for an accurate forecast. And, for another thing, much of the equation depends on the toxic realities of America's incredibly distorted debt markets; yes, that gig is going to get ugly just as surely as a big earthquake is going to hit Los Angeles, but no, it's impossible to circle the date on the calendar in advance.

So, will China's economy become No. 1? Yes. What year will that be? I have no idea.

I don't speak Chinese (not yet, anyway), so I can't possibly be an "expert" in the Chinese economy. But, yes, I have worked there, and my sense of things runs like so: China's growth can probably keep rolling for decades as long as its credit markets are driven by the market, and not too distorted by other factors. By contrast, if it follows the West and Japan into the rabbit hole of toxic credit schemes and massive inter-generational wealth transfers, then China will derail itself.

But, barring that scenario, I see no fundamental constraints on China's growth. Its GDP per-capita was just $3,678 last year; there's plenty of upside there. A whole lot of upside. Massive upside. Most large, industrial nations exceed $30,000 per-capita or so before they start taking things for granted and steering for decadence and decline. So China is nowhere near that arena.

Somebody will point out that the world has finite natural resources, and they'll say that this will put a constraint on China's growth. It's an interesting subject, but I see no need to argue any side of it, since everyone is free to place their bets in commodities markets as they see fit.

So maybe it's not very coincidental that the latest book (*The Crystal Ball*) about the world's reigning commodities guru, Jim Rogers, was written in, uh, Chinese. I should know, I have a copy. It was a gift to me by a family in, uh, Shanghai. And Rogers' daughters are learning to speak, uh, Chinese. Rogers, a professional speculator, is very optimistic about, uh, China. Hmm, I think I see a common theme here!

Anyway, moving back to the important point: Saipan' backyard is rich and getting richer. This is where the action is. As for what Saipan will do (or, more importantly, won't do) about it, well, that's a topic for a different day.

Letters to the Editor

An open letter from Kilili

The governor recently expressed concern that the Northern Marianas congressman is taking credit for Recovery Act and health care reform and "edujobs" money—over $250 million—that Congress appropriated.

I thought about responding with an explanation of Article I of the U.S. Constitution, which gives Congress the "power of the purse." Not one dollar goes to the Northern Marianas or any other part of the United States, unless Congress says so.

ON THE NET
www.kililiforcongress.com
www.sablan.house.gov

But instead of responding intellectually, I'd like to speak from the heart.

This is how I truly feel—and the Governor may find it hard to understand—but I am not interested in "taking credit."

What motivates me is improving the lives of the people I represent in any way I can. So many of our people are suffering and they need all the help I can get for them. That's what I think about every day in Washington: what more can I do to help.

I also feel a tremendous responsibility, as the first member of Congress from the Northern Mariana Islands, to set a very high standard of performance. I want people to feel proud of our islands and the work of their public officials, and to feel empowered because we are now participating directly in our national government.

Finally, I think it is important that everyone in the Marianas be aware of just how much help we get from U.S. taxpayers. *If anyone deserves "credit," it is those folks in Hawaii and Florida and Idaho, who generously share their tax dollars with us.* I feel so grateful and humbled, when I talk to other members of Congress, and think about what they and their constituents are doing for us in the Northern Marianas.

For all of these reasons I try to report constantly on the work I am doing. I believe our people have a right to know. And I believe that knowing how much help is coming from Congress may give our people hope in these very tough times.

Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan
Northern Marianas Delegate

Is this justice or injustice?

The evening of Sept. 8, 2010, I was watching the news on television and there was a segment regarding attorney Joseph Arriola, saying he was disbarred from practicing law in the CNMI after being convicted of stealing money from the Kaipat estate and that he would have to pass the bar exam if he should want to practice law again in the CNMI. This same information appeared in both local newspapers on Sept. 9, 2010.

At this point I was truly amazed and brought this to the attention of my wife, who is an heir to part of the Kaipat estate. Arriola stole the money because of his greed. This now convicted felon fled to the Philippines with monies from the estate and was subsequently caught and returned to the CNMI. Unlike his cohort Pelisamen, Arriola took a plea agreement that was apparently granted by the U.S. Attorney's Office and approved by the temporary judge assigned to the CNMI District Court.

I remember when Pelisamen was asked by a news reporter, " What did you do with the money?" He replied, "I spent the money and entertained friends." I wondered why the local court judge did not take immediate action when the judge discovered Pelisamen nor his attorney could not account for all money, instead of having wasted status conferences time after time? We sent a letter to the local judge who was handling the probate and never received a reply. When I asked the Commonwealth court recorder on the status of our request for information, I was told that the letter had been placed in the case file and not brought to the judge's attention. Why did the judge not advise an investigative agency of this potential crime? It was obvious to me that Pelisamen was not the brightest apple on the tree. As time went on, I queried the U.S. Attorney's Office regarding Arriola's upcoming sentencing and was informed in writing that Arriola's sentence would probably be greater than Pelisamen, because lawyers were generally held by the court to a higher standard than the general public. Well, guess what? He received a shorter sentence than Pelisamen. To top it off, this scoundrel was given in-house release to his mother's house because she was ill.

On our side of the ledger, let it be known that several of the heirs have passed away while awaiting Arriola's return with their inheritance. I believe the decision to run away with stolen money was a conscious decision for their inheritance was not returned and Arriola was in the Philippines, enjoying the fruits of his labor made by an unscrupulous individual and not the drug use that he alleged. Was Arriola not concerned about his mother's health prior to fleeing the Commonwealth? My experience tells me someone will tell the court anything that might help them get a smaller sentence and in this case the judge swallowed the bait. He again manipulated the justice system. His excuse was well rehearsed and calculated as he "knew" the system. Why should he be given in essence a parole at his mother's house, a reward, while waiting for his designated penal instruction? This piece of trash should not be allowed to ever take the bar exam in the CNMI and should be permanently barred from practicing law. Was his alleged drug use and previous misdemeanor conviction regarding the young baby sitter not considered? What if he passes the CNMI bar exam again? He could be appointed to the position of attorney general! What happened to the estate's remaining funds?

The court should aggressively pursue him to return the money. Why couldn't the court confiscate any assets these two guys had? Where is the accountability system? Apparently, someone could transfer land and whatever assets they have to a family member before they are convicted of a felony and avoid losing these assets to the court. It seems in Pelisamen's case his new truck that he purchased with the stolen money was seized but other assets of the estate? Where is the justice for the victims in this case, the Kaipat heirs? Perhaps, the old adage of "out of sight, out of mind" or " You cannot get blood from a turnip" applies in this case. I find it truly sad the U.S. Attorney's Office did not or could not have held a meeting with all parties of the estate to explain to them their efforts in prosecuting this case? My wife is not trying to second-guess the court or the U.S. Attorney's Office nor be Monday morning quarterback as, God forbid, she would be eternally criticized for her efforts. If the power that be says, "We do not understand the law" then explain justice to us. I hope the new U.S. Attorney from Guam adds not only law but personal understanding of the feelings of the victims in future situations. You must train your off island staff in local customs and courtesy to better assimilate in the community. As I was told by my elders and I have also told my children and grandchildren, "There are two people in your life not to trust, politicians and lawyers" and I guess now I should add judges to the list.

I am a 100 percent disabled combat vet and this is only my personal opinion and frustrations of my wife for not understanding things she cannot control and blindly relying on the authorities to do their job. I hope I have articulated to your readers our family frustrations with the "system." I have done the best job that I can to assist my wife in this case as I believe hiring an attorney would prove futile as evidence to what has happened and we would receive what I consider the same old nonsense. It often seems justice is as justice does, anything they want. Shame on you leaders of the so-called elite justice system for not making a better effort. God bless the USA and the CNMI.

Larry T. Lacy
Koblerville, Saipan

P.S. I also read with interest where the federal court judge admits making a mistake regarding former lieutenant governor Villagomez. Perhaps he could reconsider the light sentence given to Arriola and possibly write in his decision the permanent disqualification of Arriola being allowed to practice law.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mostly sunny with isolated showers. South winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds around 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲86° ▼76°	▲87° ▼77°	▲85° ▼79°	▲86° ▼78°	▲87° ▼76°

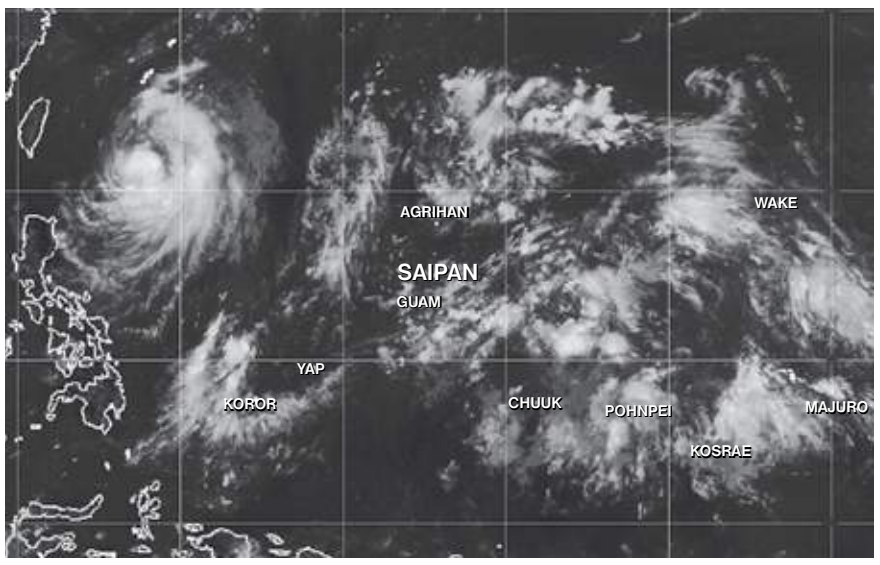
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲85	▼77
Palau	Sunny	▲86	▼77
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼77
Chuuk	Mostly Sunny	▲82	▼76
Pohnpei	Mostly Sunny	▲88	▼74
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲89	▼76
Majuro	Rain	▲86	▼75

Around The Globe

Auckland	Rain	▲61	▼51
Beijing	Rain	▲66	▼61
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲89	▼81
Honolulu	Sunny	▲88	▼76
London	Sunny	▲62	▼44
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲80	▼58
Manila	Thundershowers	▲90	▼80
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲60	▼48
Miami	Thundershowers	▲89	▼78
New York	Thundershowers	▲76	▼64
Osaka	Sunny	▲87	▼74
Paris	Sunny	▲66	▼44
Pusan	Sunny	▲83	▼71
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲86	▼65
Salem	Showers	▲76	▼60
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲68	▼59
Seoul	Sunny	▲82	▼68
Tokyo	Thundershowers	▲84	▼73
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲90	▼68

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2010
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Scattered showers and thunderstorms are occurring east of Tropical Storm Fanapi (12W) located just east of Taiwan and south of Okinawa or between 18N and 24N and west of 132E. Refer to JTWC Bulletin under WMO header WTPN31 PGTW or JMA warning under WMO header WTJP21 RJTD for further information on Fanapi. A series of upper-level lows and troughs located north of the Marianas and stretching east towards Wake Island are helping to create several areas of isolated showers and thunderstorms including from 15N to 25N between 139E and 142E from 22N to 25N between 145E and 156E and from 22N to 24N between 160E and 164E. In addition, an upper low near 21N150E is helping to generate scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms from 17N to 22N between 144E and 153E south of these upper-level features. Trade-wind convergence and troughing are aiding a couple of features east of Guam from 10N to 16N between 145E to 157E and also south of Wake from 11N to 18N between 160E to 173E in the tropics south of 10N. ITCZ-related low-level convergence in the vicinity of Palau is helping to generate scattered showers from 5N to 12N between 130E and 136E and also over a larger area between Chuuk, Pohnpei and Majuro from 3N to 9N between from 150E to 173E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

1:18 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet
9:19 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
5:02 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet
10:12 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:06 AM	6:17 PM
Saturday	6:06 AM	6:17 PM
Sunday	6:06 AM	6:16 PM
Monday	6:06 AM	6:15 PM
Tuesday	6:06 AM	6:14 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	2:09 PM	12:49 AM
Saturday	2:52 PM	1:42 AM
Sunday	3:32 PM	2:33 AM
Monday	4:10 PM	3:21 AM
Tuesday	4:45 PM	4:08 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2010

DEPARTURES

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

C09597	5:00am	5:30am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	Daily
C09605	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily
C09599	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:00am	8:35am	Daily
DL297	3:20pm	5:55pm	Daily
DL289	4:35pm	7:10pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NAGOYA

DL640	7:40am	10:20am	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	Daily via KIX
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
OZ604/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:00am	10:10pm	Daily via NRT
DL640/629	7:40am	10:35pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via NGO
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM
C09603/893	3:05pm	9:10pm	3, 5 via GUM-Palau
C09599/PR111	9:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	9:30pm	1, 5 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

C09598	6:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09600	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09606	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL290	9:45am	2:20pm	Daily
DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:40pm	1:10am+1	Daily

NAGOYA-SAIPAN

DL641	9:10pm	1:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ704/605	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
DL630/641	6:30am	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 via NGO
DL172/288	7:40am	1:10am+1	Daily via NRT
C0890/9606	10:55am	9:00pm	6 via GUM
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/C09596	10:00pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C0892/9596	10:10pm	7:50am+1	3,5 via GUM-Palau
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	2 ,4 ,6, 7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0910/9596	10:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

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CDMA
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BlackBerry 8130

CDMA
$120.00

BlackBerry 8830

CDMA
$150.00

Samsung M550 Exclaim

CDMA
$170.00

Motorola Rival A455

CDMA
$170.00

Casio Exilim C721

CDMA
$199.00

Samsung Instinct S30

CDMA
$190.00

Samsung R-211

CDMA
$40.00

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$210.00

BlackBerry Storm2

GSM/CDMA WiFi Phone
$370.00

BlackBerry Curve2 8530

CDMA WiFi Phone
$230.00

HTC Hero

CDMA WiFi Phone
$275.00

HTC Touch Pro2

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Samsung Moment

CDMA WiFi Phone
$260.00

LG Ally 740

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Sony Ericson Z750A

GSM
$155.00

Motorola ROKR E8

GSM
$160.00

LG 360

GSM
$145.00

LG GW300

GSM
$160.00

Samsung B 3310

GSM
$170.00

BlackBerry 9630

GSM/CDMA
$340.00

Nokia 5200

GSM
$110.00

Motorola Z6

GSM
$120.00

Motorola ROKR E2

GSM
$110.00

Motorola PEBL U6

GSM
$80.00

Samsung Gravity 7459

GSM
$165.00

E71

GSM WiFi Phone
$155.00

BlackBerry Bold 9650

CDMA/GSM WiFi Phone
$380.00

BlackBerry Bold 8520

CDMA WiFi Phone
$280.00

LG Chocolate Touch

CDMA
$195.00

Samsung T219

GSM
$65.00

Samsung Smooth

CDMA
$45.00

LG Cookie 500

GSM
$155.00

Motorola Droid

CDMA
$350.00

LG CU720

GSM
$120.00

Samsung Propel

GSM
$160.00

Samsung M300

CDMA
$60.00

LG Glance

CDMA
$165.00

Sanyo 2700

CDMA
$99.00

Sanyo Eclipse

CDMA
$99.00

LG Chocolate 3

CDMA
$175.00

LG VX5500

CDMA
$55.00

BlackBerry 8230

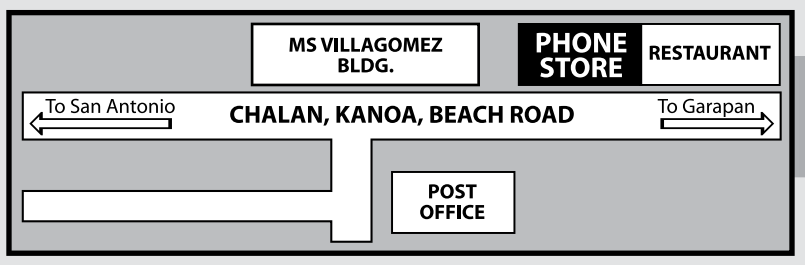
CDMA
$140.00

LG Rumor Touch

CDMA WiFi
$240.00

Samsung Seek

CDMA
$175.00



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Letter to the Editor

Please practice what you preach

Dear CNMI leaders: I keep reading in the newspapers about how the majority of you continue to insist that in order to have a balanced budget, all government workers must cut their hours by 16, not just eight. You have continually talked about a balanced budget. If this is so crucial, then why does the CNMI government always end up with a deficit?

As leaders, you need to understand the consequences of your actions. Do you not understand the ripple effect of what your words and actions are doing to the private sector and the business community? Obviously not, so let me break it down for you.

By cutting everyone's hours across the board by 16, you have now made it virtually impossible for middle and lower income families of the CNMI to get by. Every cent that we have will go to paying the bare essentials: power, water, food, and gas for the family car.

So what does that mean? Businesses will see fewer patrons. From stores to restaurants to bars to beauty salons to floral shops, less customers means less revenue for the already struggling businesses in the CNMI. Chances are, many of these businesses will close down. That means less revenue for the government in taxes. Many of the businesses will lay off more workers. That means a surge in unemployment.

It doesn't take a business degree to figure this out. All it takes is common sense. Even a fifth grader could understand this very basic business concept.

My dear leaders, please come down to our level. Instead of hiding from your constituents, embrace us. Talk to us! Sponsor a townhall meeting or community forum in our villages and don't talk…just *listen*! Why do we always have to trek up to Capital Hill to talk to you? As my father told me when I was growing up, "Don't you know getting from Point A to Point B is the same distance as getting from Point B to Point A?" If you, as our leaders, are really as concerned about our economy as you claim to be, then please listen to your community. We do have the answers, if you will only *listen*.

It is shameful that our people have to suffer from government payless paydays. Didn't any of your finance consultants foresee this a few months ago? Couldn't they have avoided the shortfall through proper planning and budgeting from day one? You know what is so twisted? If a private business fails to pay their workers on time, they get tarred, feathered, and fined by the Department of Labor. If the government fails to pay their workers on time, there are no sanctions…nothing happens. As we say in Saipan, "What's good for the chicken is good for the kelaguen."

Public servants are supposed to put others before themselves. With that said, don't you think it is ludicrous to have a "constitutionally protected" paycheck and expect to get paid on time, while everyone else must wait? Don't you think that is a bit unfair? How about one of you create a bill that states that the people must get paid before public servants? Let's see how many leaders will support it.

As leaders, it is important that you practice what you preach.

See PLEASE on Next Page

DEVELOPING

From Page 10

Green resources, however, can keep on giving—for many generations—if used thoughtfully and shared equitably.

It's no surprise that the handful of developing countries that decided years ago to take a development path preserving their environmental resources have experienced higher economic growth and greater social stability than their neighbors. Conservation-minded countries like Costa Rica and Botswana have also been islands of peace in regions otherwise wracked by conflict.

The new scholarship on conservation and security also contains lessons for the United States: Serious environmental degradation has the potential to undermine our security, economic and political goals in many regions of the world. The lesson is being taught to us in Afghanistan, Somalia and many other places, if we care to pay attention: It's harder to win over hearts and minds when the environment has already been lost.

Anthony Zinni is a retired four-star Marine general and a former commander in chief of the U.S. Central Command. Readers may send him e-mail at Aczinni@aol.com.

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PLEASE

From Page 14

Somewhere along the line, you forgot what your real duties and responsibilities are as lawmakers. No leader should be in the business of buying uniforms for teams or dropping off tents and tables. Uniforms for teams should be purchased through fundraising efforts or through their own pockets, and tents and tables should be provided by family and friends, not lawmakers. Lawmakers should stick to making good and sensible laws and repealing insane and idiotic ones. Lawmakers should concentrate on ensuring that the people of the CNMI are protected and safe from violent criminals and repeat offenders. Lawmakers should strive to make the CNMI a clean and beautiful destination, so that tourism will once again flourish. Get your priorities straight!

If you really want to cut budgets start with your own. Here are a few ways you can do this:

Pay for your own power. If we are paying for your CUC bill and you live in a huge mansion up on the hill, *pay for your own power*. If we pay for our own power bill, why can't you do the same?

Reduce your discretionary funds. Cut down on your discretionary funds. Everyone is making cuts. So should you.

Eliminate travel. Do you really need to go on another fact-finding mission? If you really want to find something out, just "Google" it. It's much cheaper.

I know that these three ways won't get the CNMI out of debt, but every dollar matters at this point. You must also understand that it is symbolic. If we see that you are making an honest effort to reduce your spending and if we know you are making a conscious effort to conserve, we will thank you. Sometimes, it is not enough to just understand someone's pain. You must also feel it.

I am not a business guru or a financial genius. But as an average man making an average income, I experience firsthand the hardships, struggles, and sacrifice we make for our family. I know that I must live within my means. I know that if it comes down between partying and Pampers, the latter will always win. And I know that all the money in the world means nothing compared to the love and affection that we share as a family. Family is priceless.

My dear leaders, please, do not think of us as voters. Think of us as your family. Work hard for us. Feel our pain. Listen to us. We are counting on you.

May God bless you and give you the wisdom and courage to do the right thing.

Ed Propst
Dandan, Saipan

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Buckingham, OAG release 271 pages of documents to Kilili campaign

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham and others at the Office of the Attorney General released to Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan's campaign up to 271 pages of documents related to the AG and OAG staff's hosting of a campaign event for delegate candidate Joseph Camacho of the ruling Covenant Party.

The OAG and the Kilili campaign issued separate statements yesterday about the release of the documents that were available for inspections as early as Monday.

The OAG provided electronic copies of the documents, most of them emails to and from OAG personnel about the Aug. 28 gathering at Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's residence in Gualo Rai.

RELATED NEWS
Kilili campaign releases Open Govt docs to public. PAGE 19

They also include the AG's public statements, memos, and emails from reporters asking for comments on the matter.

Buckingham interpreted the Kilili campaign's request as beyond the limits of the Open Government Act.

"Responding to this particular request presented unique challenges to the Office of the Attorney General and its staff. Although presented as a request for access to public records under the Open Government Act… the Campaign actually requested the OAG to produce documents which are not public records and documents which do not belong to this office, such as employees' personal e-mails and recordings made of the event at the governor's home," the OAG said.

The Kilili campaign requested the documents related to the Aug. 28 gathering under the Open Government Act.

The OAG, in a statement, said its employees cooperated by searching their computers, email accounts and work spaces for potentially responsive material and forwarded such materials to assistant attorney general W. Allen Hazlip of the Civil Division.

Copies of the documents are posted on the Kilili campaign website, www.kililiforcongress.com, and, upon request, at the campaign headquarters in the Morgen building on Beach Road.

The OAG also provided the media yesterday with the electronic copies of the 271 pages of documents.

Man who used another's passport gets time-served sentence

A Chinese national who was arrested by the Federal Bureau of Investigation at the Saipan International Airport in July for allegedly using somebody else's passport to board a plane pleaded guilty yesterday in federal court.

De Zhu Sun, 32, pleaded guilty to attempted improper entry into a secure area of an airport as part of a plea bargain. The remaining charges were dismissed.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge David A. Wiseman sentenced Sun to the time he had already served in prison since his arrest and ordered that he be immediately deported.

If deportation fails to occur and Sun is released pending further immigration proceedings, Wiseman said that Sun shall immediately report to the U.S. Probation Office to begin serving his one year supervised release.

Sun had attempted to enter a secure area of the Saipan International Airport on July 21, 2010, by using a passport and a boarding pass that belonged to another person, in order to board a plane and leave the CNMI.

An FBI special agent said that a Transportation and Security Officer became suspicious because the picture in the passport didn't appear to match the passenger's appearance. The passport presented belonged to a male named Wenjun Zhou. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Capitol hearing today to test cost-saving video technology

WASHINGTON, D.C.—This week's congressional hearing on Northern Marianas-related bills will test the feasibility of testifying by videoconference between the CNMI and the Natural Resources Committee room at the Capitol, according to U.S. Rep. Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan yesterday.

Committee chair Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-Guam) has agreed to Sablan's request to try using the video technology to save the cost of travel between the Marianas and Washington for constituents invited to testify before Congress.

"We have to find a way to make Congress more accessible to the citizenry of the Mariana Islands," said Sablan. "I am very grateful to Chairwoman Bordallo, who has agreed to my request that we try this out and see if it works satisfactorily. It would certainly be a significant saving, if people from the Northern Marianas did not have to travel half-way around the world to spend an hour or so presenting their testimony and answering committee questions."

Bordallo chairs the Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans, and Wildlife, which is holding a hearing on Thursday, Sept. 16 (Sept. 17, Saipan time), on two bills.

One is Bordallo's bill, H.R. 6015, which requires the Bureau of Economic Analysis to conduct surveys of gross domestic product in the insular areas. H.R. 6015 also requires the Department of Homeland Security to find alternative methods for allowing tourists not from visa waiver approved countries to enter the Marianas. And the bill clarifies that if the five-year transition period provided in Public Law 110-229 is extended, the exemption of the cap on H visas for the Marianas will also be extended.

The other is Sablan's bill, H.R. 4339, which establishes a fellowship in the name of Dr. Rita Hocog Inos. Students from the Northern Marianas would be given a paid internship with a local and/or federal agency in order to gain understanding of how government works and to become more civically engaged.

"In a sense, the bill and the videoconferencing experiment go hand-in-hand," Sablan said. "Both are ways to bridge the gap between the Northern Marianas and Washington. Both the Inos Fellowships and the videoconferencing give our people in the Marianas more chance to participate in their government." ***(PR)***

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BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy 1st birthday to Maya Jae Cruz Jung! May God bless you and may you have many more birthdays to come. We love you so much! Greetings come from the family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday to Joseph M. Berki! Enjoy your special day and may all your wishes come true. Love and greetings from your family, friends, and Naomi.

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Advance happy birthday to Abner Trovela, who will be celebrating his special day on Sept. 19, 2010! Greetings come from your Joeten Ace Hardware family!

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Keynotes music school to hold dinner concert

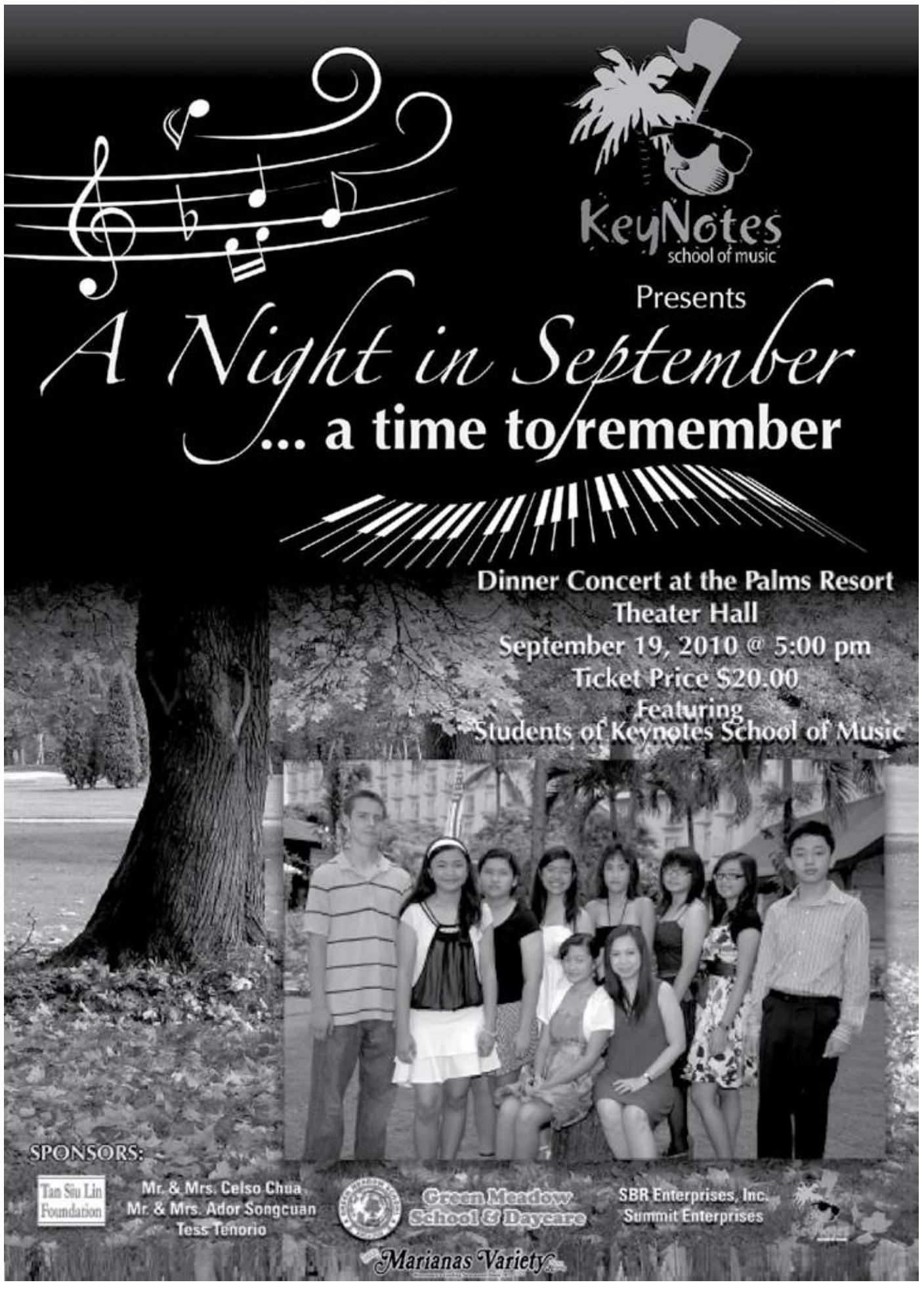
By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Listen to great musical talents of the students of the Keynotes School of Music as they present a dinner concert dubbed "A Night in September, Time to Remember" on Sunday, Sept. 19, 5pm at the Palms Resort Theater Hall.

"The dinner concert is also a fundraising event to support our participants for two music festivals in Guam next year," music teacher and concert director Dinah Medina told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Medina said the two music festivals include a piano contest in January and the Tumon Bay Music Festival slated for March.

Cloency Zuriel Y. Chua, Lizelle Songcuan, Ann Margaret Norcio, Joselle Reyes, Julliane Bigueros, Athena Palejo, Angel Pamintuan, Alvejane Manabat, Brandon Lorenz, and Andrea Manese will be performing in Keynotes School of Music's dinner concert, dubbed "A Night in September, Time to Remember," on Sunday, Sept. 19, 5pm at the Palms Resort Theater Hall.



For now, Medina said they only have one confirmed participant for the two events, 13-year-old Cloency Zuriel Y. Chua.

An eighth-grader at Grace Christian Academy, Chua joined the Tumon Bay Music Festival for the first time in March and made it to the Magic 3.

The eldest among three children of parents Celso and Nancy, Chua will be the main act in Sunday's concert that aims to raise funds to subsidize the cost of Chua's airfare and accommodations and, possibly, other participants as well.

Chua's Sunday repertoire will include Beethoven's *Moonlight Sonata* and Chopin's *Fantaisie-Impromptu*, which he performed in March in the Tumon Bay Music Festival.

"A Night in September, Time to Remember" will showcase 10 exceptional students of the Keynotes School of Music who will perform a wide-ranging repertoire.

The other students are Lizelle Songcuan, performing *The Prayer*; Ann Margaret Norcio, *La Decadence*; Joselle Reyes, *Doll's Dream* and *Sapagkat Kami'y Tao Lamang*; Julliane Bigueros, *Rhapsody On A Theme of Paganini* and *Saber Dance*; Athena Palejo, *Take a Vow, Jojo,* and *Wedding Dress*; Angel Pamintuan, *Gipsy Dance* and *Toccata in D Minor*; Alvejane Manabat, *Lyphard Melody*; Brandon Lorenz, *To Zanardkard* and *Aragonaise*; and Andrea Manese, *Prelude in C Major* and *Fur Elise*.

Concert sponsors include the Tan Siu Lin Foundation, Mr. & Mrs. Celso Chua, Mr. & Mrs. Ador Songcuan, Tess Tenorio, Green Meadow School & Day Care, SB Enterprises Inc., Summit Enterprises, Pacific Trading Co., and Marianas Printing Press.

From the time of its inception in 2002, Keynotes School of Music has been developing the talents and skills of young and aspiring musicians on island.

Located at Babauta's compound next to Pacific Medical Center, Keynotes offers classes in piano, guitar, ukulele, drums, trumpet, clarinet, flute, and voice lessons. They currently have about 50 students of different ethnicities.

Medina, who teaches voice and piano classes, is joined by two other instructors. Ryan Isidro handles lead and bass guitar lessons while his brother Rommel is in charge of drums.

Since 2008, the music school has been under the management and guidance of school director Milagros Merjilla.

Medina, who also joined the school in 2008, has since developed their lessons to ensure learning and guarantee skill enhancement among her students.

"Since I became the teacher, I make it a point that we have about three recitals a year," said Medina.

Medina also said their school supports competitive endeavors of their students. With the help of equally supportive parents, these students make progress musically, she said.

Aside from improving skills, Medina said these students also serve as ambassadors for the CNMI as they represent the island when they join competitions in Guam.

"So it's an honor for the CNMI as well. We are hopeful that the community will help support our students and come watch our concert to support a good cause," she added.

Tickets for the dinner concert are available at the gate or at the Keynotes office in Gualo Rai. Each ticket is $20. For information, contact Dinah Medina at 233-6872.

Chargualaf retires from CUC after 12 yrs.

After 12 years of service, safety officer Mathias "Mac" Chargualaf has retired from the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

Abe Utu Malae, CUC assistant executive director, described Chargualaf yesterday as one of the most dependable employees of the utilities firm.

"He served as CUC's safety officer and was noted for being 'on the ball,'" said Malae, adding that Chargualaf was on call 24/7 and went beyond the call of duty to execute his responsibilities.

Saipan Tribune learned that Chargualaf is also retired from the U.S. Army.

As CUC's safety officer, Chargualaf represented CUC at the EMO emergency center during typhoon watch, at the hospital when an employee is injured, and at the Lower Base power plant to meet with the security company. He also coordinated training for hazardous materials and other duties.

"Mac believed that there was never enough training for employees in all areas under his responsibility. …It will be tough to fill his shoes," said Malae.

Vince Pangelinan has been named to succeed Chargualaf.

Chargualaf, 62, started as CUC's assistant security officer in June 2002. Three months later, he landed the security officer position.

Chargualaf officially left CUC on Sept. 4. He said he plans to spend more time with his family.

As he leaves, he said there is still room for improvement at CUC, particularly in the control room. He said training is vital for employees in the control room so they could better attend to people reporting or inquiring about power and water outages. ***(Moneth Deposa)***

Kilili campaign releases Open Govt docs to public

The Committee to Elect Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan released yesterday all of the documents it has received related to the CNMI Attorney General and his staff hosting a campaign event for Covenant Party delegate candidate Joe Camacho on Aug. 28.

The documents, obtained under an Open Government Act request by the Committee, are available for public inspection at the campaign website, www.kililiforcongress.com, and, upon request, at the campaign headquarters in the Morgen building on Beach Road.

Rather than selectively release the documents the Committee decided that the public deserves unrestricted access to everything that the Attorney General's office provided.

Any member of the public should have the opportunity to inspect the e-mails and other documents in which the attorney general and members of the Attorney General's office discussed and planned the event.

The Commonwealth Open Government Act allows any member of the public to have access to government documents.

The Kilili campaign asked for all e-mails sent using government computers or sent using private computers during normal government business hours; phone messages, phone logs, memos or receipts of phone calls; all receipts, vouchers, purchase orders, requests for reimbursement and other evidence of money spent; as well as the list of AG office staff who attended or were involved in planning the political event.

In addition, the Open Government Act request asked for any employee policies and guidelines that limit and restrict political campaign activity in the office, the text of speeches or statements made, photographs taken, and receipts and vouchers of money spent on the event. ***(PR)***

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR THE LOADING BRIDGES
PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-008-10

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for Preventive Maintenance of the Loading Bridges at the Saipan International Airport on the Island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The scope of work entails providing preventive maintenance services for the four (4) loading bridges. All proposers must show proof of loading bridge repair or similar experience. The detailed scope of work will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building on Friday, September 3, 2010. Proposers must submit all required documents listed in the scope of work. All responses to this RFP shall also take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project, including excise tax.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: *"Proposal for the Preventive Maintenance of the Loading Bridges at the Saipan International Airport".* One original and four (4) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than **4:30 P.M. LOCAL TIME, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2010**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ MR. EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with the "Open Government Act", the Public School System State Board of Education, through their Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC), is hereby serving notice to the general public that it will hold a meeting on Thursday, September 23, 2010, 8:30 am to 12:00 pm, at the Pacific Islands Club, Napu Room. This meeting is open to the public; interested individuals are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

I. Call to Order
A. Welcome & Introduction
B. Attendance & Quorum

II. Orientation
- Roles and Responsibilities of members

III. Endorsements
- Early Interview Procedural Manual
- Early Interview Monitoring Manual

IV. Review and Revise ICC By-laws

V. OSEPs Verification Visit
- Skateholders Input

VI. Adjournment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend this meeting, but require accessibility such as large print, sign language or interpreter, must call 237-3029/19. Several days' notice is necessary to allow organizers ample time to make necessary arrangements.

/s/ Margaret Aldan
Chairwoman

/s/ Suzanne W. Lizama
Special Education Acting Coordinator

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with the "Open Government Act", the Public School System State Board of Education, through their Special Education State Advisory Panel (SESAP) is hereby serving notice to the general public that it will hold a special meeting on Wednesday, September 22, 2010, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, at the Pacific Islands Club, Napu Room. This meeting is open to the public; interested individuals are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

I. Call to Order
A. Welcome & Introduction

II. OSEP Verification Visit
- Skateholders Input

III. Adjournment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend this meeting, but require accessibility such as large print, sign language or interpreter, must call 237-3029/19. Several days' notice is necessary to allow organizers ample time to make necessary arrangements.

/s/ Frances Diaz
Chairwoman

/s/ Suzanne W. Lizama
Special Education Acting Coordinator

TOMBSTONES | GRAVEMARKERS | LAPIDAS
JUAN DELA CRUZ
Born: May 24, 1921
ROSA TAMAN MALITI - FEJERAN
MOTHER
Granite colors: Jet Black, Tropical Green, Ruby Red and Blue Pearl
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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai
Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW10-IFB-017

RETROFIT OF GOVERNMENT HOUSE No.1336-ENERGY OFFICE

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the Retrofit of Government House No.1336-Energy Office, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project package will be available on or after September 17, 2010 at DPW, Energy Office, Capitol Hill, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of One Hundred Dollars ($100.00) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at DPW Energy Office, Capitol Hill.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001.

A Pre-bid Conference is scheduled for October 5, 2010, 9:00 a.m. local time at the project site located at the DPW, Energy Office, Capitol Hill.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that the full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 p.m. to **Mr. Joseph M. Inos, Jr., Director of Technical Services Division,** 1353 Mednilla Avenue-Capitol Hill, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Pubic Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who have obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of ay addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/38 no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked "DPW10-IFB-017". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time October 20, 2010. Bidders located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, October 20, 2010, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than October 20, 2010, and must be received no later than October 29, 2010. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, November 3, 2010. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:00 a.m. local time, on October 25, 2010.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **A surety company shall hold the Certificate of Authority (COA) from the Office of the Insurance Commissioner (CNMI Department of Commerce) as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General and must accompany the bid.** Bid security may be a Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with NMIAC ss 70-30.3-301 of the Procurement Regulations. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. The surety company providing the Performance and Payment bonds must hold a Certificate of Authority from the Office of the Insurance Commissioner (CNMI Department of Commerce) as an acceptable surety and must be authorized to conduct business in the CNMI. In addition, the contractor will be required to deliver a certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments or other bond obligations) exceeded the penal amount of each bond.

Performance time of completion of this project is One Hundred Twenty (120) Working days upon issuance of an official written Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed at One Hundred Dollars ($100.00) per calendar day for delays beyond the established completion date.

This project is funded in Whole from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 through the U.S. Department of Energy. The Contractor shall ensure all ARRA requirements are met in a timely manner.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ MARTIN C. SABLAN
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

/s/ THELMA B. INOS
Director, Energy Division

Business

Winners of Skechers China promotion tour Saipan

Ten lucky Skechers customers along with Skechers China representatives visited Saipan from Sept. 3 to 7 on a five-day wellness holiday tour.

The "Buy Shape-Ups and have a chance to win Skechers Shape-Ups Wellness Holiday Trip on Saipan" promotion ran in China from April to June this year.

Out of the thousands of Skechers Shape-Ups shoppers who entered the contest, 10 won a roundtrip ticket from Shanghai to Saipan during draws held separately in Skechers concept stores in Guangzhou, Shanghai, and Beijing last July 10.

"When I bought Shape-Ups, it was simply because of the benefits I could get from the shoes. Out of my surprise, I won a free overseas trip to Saipan. I really appreciated the thoughtful arrangement from Skechers and we had a smooth and effortless vacation. After only a four-hour flight, we were in the U.S. territory of Saipan. The island has both American and Asian characteristics, in addition to the beautiful natural scenery, there were many types of food from American, Japanese, Korean, to Filipino. It was a great experience!" said one of the customers, Li Ming from Shanghai.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

The 10 "Buy Shape-Ups and have a chance to win Skechers Shape-Ups Wellness Holiday Trip on Saipan" winners pose at Bird Island Lookout. Inset, the visitors from China after a shopping spree at the newly opened Skechers Concept Store in Garapan.

During their trip, the group was treated to an exclusive island tour and complementary island spa. It allowed everyone to experience the uniqueness of the local culture. A visit to Managaha Island also left an indelible impression of "Rainbow Sea" to the visitors. They also got to shop at the recently opened Skechers Concept Store in Garapan.

"Skechers not only provided us the chance to have a wellness holiday and getaway from our busy urban life, but also gave us a newfound awareness of health. Skechers Shape-Ups is probably the best shoes I had purchased in my life," said Ding Xiaobiao from Beijing.

"Buy Shape-Ups and have a chance to win Skechers Shape-Ups Wellness Holiday Trip on Saipan" was the shoe store's first promotion in the Chinese market.

It aims to enhance customer understanding of healthy lifestyles. Skechers launched Shape-Ups in the U.S. in 2009 and sales have exceeded expectations.

Sales of the shoes in China have increased since last September. This Fall/Winter season, more new styles are available in the Skechers stores in China.

Discover Shape-Ups at the Skechers Concept Store in Garapan. The store is open everyday, including holidays, from 10am to 10pm. For more information, visit the store or contact 233-1001 or 1016. ***(PR)***

SHAPE-UPS

Exercise while you walk

Skechers Concept Store in Garapan is proud to introduce the Shape-Ups line of shoes which launched earlier this year.

This revolutionary shoe is designed to give wearers a chance to experience how this innovative footwear may lead to toner muscles, improved posture, and reduced joint stress.

"Our store is very excited to share this shoe with the CNMI along with international style icons, and celebrities," said Gabriel Boyer, owner of the Garapan store.

"Shape-ups suit all walks of life, but are a perfect complement to those people who are constantly on the go and on their feet," he added.

With Shape-ups' kinetic wedge midsole and rocker bottom, wearers can build and maintain a healthy lifestyle by getting in shape anywhere they walk. The Shape-ups men's and women's collection includes sneakers, dress casual looks, and boots. Shape-ups are available in sporting goods, department, and specialty athletic stores around the world.

Discover Shape-ups and other fine products at the Skechers Concept Store in Garapan. The store is open every day, including holidays, from 10am to 10pm. For more information, visit the store or contact 233-1001 or 1016. ***(PR)***

BankPacific promotes Hizon, Camacho, six others

Hizon

Alojepan

Esguerra

De Ramos

Vilante

Borja

BankPacific president and chair Phillip J. Flores yesterday announced the promotion of Ken Hizon to senior vice president and information technology manager and Saipan's very own Fred Camacho to vice president, Saipan senior officer.

Hizon, who joined BankPacific in 2003 as IT supervisor, finished with a bachelor's degree in Business Information from San Francisco State University.

Camacho, for his part, has been with the bank since 2003. He received his bachelor of arts degree in Business Administration and Management from the University of Guam. Camacho, whose banking experience is in operations and lending, also worked in various government agencies in the CNMI.

Flores also announced the promotion of six other BankPacific officials.

Alma Alojepan was promoted to manager of Pacific Basin Investment Corp., wholly owned subsidiary of BankPacific.

Alojepan, who began her employment at PBIC in 1992, received a B.S. degree in Education from the University of San Agustin in Iloilo, Philippines. She has over 40 years of experience in the insurance industry.

Flores also announced the appointment of Dante Esguerra as Hagatna facilities manager. Esguerra joined BankPacific in 2002. He brings with him over 10 years experience in various general maintenance and other mechanical skills.

Cristine Borja was also promoted to assistant vice president and Hagatna office manager. Borja graduated from George Washington High School and began her banking career as a customer service associate.

Borja joined the bank in 2003 as a teller and later was promoted to Agat office manager in 2007. She also held other employment in the private sector both in the accounting and hospitality industries.

Flores also announced the promotion of Joseph Koshiba to vice president, Palau senior officer. Koshiba graduated from Mankato State University with B.S. degree in Public Health Administration. He began his banking career in 1983 in bank operations, collections, and lending and joined BankPacific in 1995 when he established the bank's office in Palau.

Rizalina "Sally" De Ramos was also promoted to assistant vice president, accounting supervisor. De Ramos received her B.S. degree in Business Administration with a major in Accounting from the University of the East in Manila, Philippines. She joined the bank in 2001. The majority of her work experience has been in the accounting field in the banking business.

Flores also announced the appointment of Maria "Leah" Vilante to assistant vice president, Electronic Services manager.

Vilante, who started with the bank in 1997, began her banking career as a teller, advanced to Dededo supervisor, and then was promoted to Dededo office manager in 2006. She has over 13 years of banking experience in operations.

BankPacific has provided friendly and personal service to individuals and businesses in the Western Pacific since 1954. It has four offices in Guam and one each in Saipan and the Republic of Palau. ***(PR)***

SUPPORTING THE HUMANITIES CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Moylan's Insurance Underwriters general manager Cathy Tenorio, left, presents a $1,000 check to Humanities Council executive director Scott Russell. Also pictured is Liza Cardona Anda, Moylan's health plan coordinator. The Council will use this donation to support upcoming public humanities programs.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
10,572.73	1,125.07	2,301.32
46.24	0.00	0.00
0.44%	0.00%	0.00%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.0641	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7669	Philippine Peso	44.285
British Pound	0.6398	Indian Rupee	46.361	Singapore Dollar	1.3378
Canadian Dollar	1.0265	Indonesian Rupiah	8,990	South Korean Won	1,161.15
Chinese Yuan	6.7877	Japanese Yen	85.635	Swiss Franc	1.0021
Euro	0.7686	Malaysian Ringgit	3.1165	Taiwan Dollar	31.765
		New Zealand Dollar	1.3634	Thailand Baht	30.855

Nation

More House Democrats call for tax cuts for all

WASHINGTON (AP)—More Democrats joined Republicans on Wednesday in calling for the preservation of tax breaks for Americans of every income level, bolting this election season from President Barack Obama's plan to preserve cuts for families who earn less than $250,000 and let taxes rise for the wealthiest Americans. But Obama placed the blame for the stalled proposal squarely on Republicans.

"They want to hold these middle class tax cuts hostage until they get an additional tax cut for the wealthiest 2 percent of Americans," the president said in afternoon remarks.

"Doesn't it make sense for us to move forward with the tax cuts that we all agree on?" Obama added. "We should be able to extend, right now, middle-class tax relief on the first $250,000 of income."

AP

Rep. Mike Ross, D-Ark., left, and Rep. Joe Donnelly, D-Ind., talk before a meeting of "Blue Dog" Democrats on Tuesday, Sept. 14, 2010, in Washington.

Nervous Democrats are among those with concerns about the president's plan.

"We should not be raising taxes in the middle of a recession," Rep. Jim Marshall, D-Ga., who's facing tough odds in his bid for a fourth term, wrote in a terse letter to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

"It is essential that we keep things as they are in the short term," said Rep. Travis W. Childers, D-Miss., another conservative incumbent in a tight race, whose district, like Marshall's, voted for Republican John McCain in the 2008 presidential race.

For this pair, one press release announcing their opposition to Obama's plan was not enough. They were two of 31 jittery Democrats who signed a letter urging Pelosi, D-Calif., and Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, D-Md., to abandon the Obama plan and extend to everyone the Bush-era tax cuts due to expire at the end of the year, according to one of its authors, Rep. Jim Matheson, D-Utah.

Arlington opens graves, finds 2 misplaced bodies

WASHINGTON (AP)—Two people were buried in the wrong graves at Arlington National Cemetery, the Army said Wednesday, as it followed up an investigation into bookkeeping problems and burial mix-ups at one of the nation's most hallowed sites.

After a report issued in June found that the problems could potentially affect thousands of graves, defense officials received about 1,100 calls from worried families.

One of those calls, from the widow of an Army staff sergeant, led to the exhumation of her husband's casket late last month. The remains in it belonged to someone else, so officials opened a nearby grave and found the woman's husband, said Gary Tallman, an Army spokesman.

"The families are satisfied that the problem was fixed," Tallman said Wednesday.

Another grave was opened Wednesday in a different section of Arlington. At the request of his father, the grave and casket of Marine Pfc. Heath Warner of Canton, Ohio, were opened. The site was found to hold the remains of Warner, who was killed in Iraq in 2006, Tallman said.

"We're gratified that the outcome was positive and they were able to gain some closure," Tallman said of Warner's family members.

Report: Illegal drug use up sharply last year

WASHINGTON (AP)—The rate of illegal drug use rose last year to the highest level in nearly a decade, fueled by a sharp increase in marijuana use and a surge in ecstasy and methamphetamine abuse, the government reported Wednesday.

Gil Kerlikowske, the director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, called the 9 percent increase in drug use disappointing but said he was not surprised given "eroding attitudes" about the perception of harm from illegal drugs and the growing number of states approving medicinal marijuana.

"I think all of the attention and the focus of calling marijuana medicine has sent the absolute wrong message to our young people," Kerlikowske said in an interview.

The annual report from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration found marijuana use rose by 8 percent and remained the most commonly used drug.

Mike Meno, a spokesman for the pro-legalization Marijuana Policy Project, said the survey is more proof that the government's war on marijuana has failed in spite of decades of enforcement efforts and arrests.

"It's time we stop this charade and implement sensible laws that would tax and regulate marijuana the same way we do more harmful—but legal—drugs like alcohol and tobacco," Meno said.

ACROSS THE NATION

Tropical Storm Karl heads to Gulf of Mexico

CANCUN, Mexico (AP)—Tropical Storm Karl dumped heavy rains on the Yucatan Peninsula on Thursday as it moved toward the Gulf of Mexico, where it is expected to pick up steam and become a hurricane threatening Mexico's central coast by the weekend. In the Atlantic, forecasters say Hurricane Igor has spun into a major Category 4 storm and is threatening to generate life-threatening rip currents along the U.S. East Coast over the weekend and to bring large swells to the Bahamas and Virgin Islands before that. Category 3 Hurricane Julia is not a threat to land. In Mexico, the government issued a hurricane watch for its eastern Gulf Coast from La Cruz in Tamaulipas state south to Nautla in Veracruz. It is expected to reach the coast on Saturday.

Hundreds evacuated near Calif. canyon fire

LAKE ISABELLA, Calif. (AP)—Hundreds of residents in small mountain communities were under evacuation orders Wednesday as a forest fire in the southern Sierra Nevada grew to more than 6,100 acres and destroyed one home. Mandatory evacuations involved portions of the town of Bodfish and an area known as Myers Canyon, said Cindy Thill, a U.S. Forest Service spokeswoman. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger declared a state of emergency Wednesday in Kern County to free up state resources to battle the blaze. The Federal Emergency Management Agency also has authorized the use of federal funds to help fight the blaze. The fire erupted Sunday in the Lower Kern River Canyon and burned up and out of the canyon in a portion of Sequoia National Forest southwest of Lake Isabella, a popular fishing, boating and hiking area about 110 miles north of downtown Los Angeles.

Poor berry crop pushes hungry bears near humans

BOISE, Idaho (AP)—Without their usual diet of berries and nuts as hibernation approaches, mama, papa and baby bears in the West are turning to cars and cabins and finding the leftovers are juuuust right. Huckleberries, nuts and pine cones are in short supply this year because of poor growing conditions, so bears have taken to breaking into cars, nosing around backyards and raiding orchards. And as happens when bears roam into towns, they end up trapped or dead. In New Mexico, 83 bears have been killed so far this year, more than three times as many as last year. It's all got wildlife officials from the Pacific Northwest down to New Mexico advising people to put away bird feed, stow trash and keep any other smelly objects under wraps.

Doctor: Ind. boy fought as brother strangled him

RISING SUN, Ind. (AP)—Fingernail marks on a 10-year-old Indiana boy's neck showed he tried to pry his teenage brother's arm loose as the older boy strangled him, a doctor testified during a Wednesday sentencing hearing. Dr. Dean Hawley performed the autopsy on Conner Conley, whose brother, Andrew, pleaded guilty this week to murder in the boy's November death. "There was a struggle, a violent struggle," Hawley, autopsy director at the Indiana University School of Medicine in Indianapolis, told an Ohio Circuit Court judge in the small Ohio River town of Rising Sun. Andrew Conley, 18, faces 45 years to life in prison without parole. He can't face the death penalty because he was 17 at the time of the slaying. His sentencing hearing is expected to take three to four days.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

Commonwealth Ports Authority
Multi Year Financial and Compliance Audit Services

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
CPA-RFP-007-10

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed cost proposals for auditing services for a period of three fiscal years. The locations and scope of work package is available beginning Tuesday, September 7, 2010 from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor, Arrival Building, at the Saipan International Airport.

Interested proposers must submit one original and three copies of the sealed proposal. Only proposals from U.S. nationally recognized firms will be accepted.

The sealed proposals must be submitted before 4:30 p.m., Monday, September 27, 2010, at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the Arrival Building, at the Saipan International Airport. CPA reserves the right to reject any and all proposals if in its opinion to do so is in CPA's best interest.

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

PACIFIC ASSET MANAGEMENT CORP.,	)	CIVIL ACTION NO. 06-0179
Plaintiff,	)	**AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE**
vs.	)	
ANA MARIA B. HOFSCHNIEDER, THE ESTATE OF HENRY LAMBERT UNTALAN HOFSCHNEIDER, and DOES I-X,	)	
Defendants.	)	

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on February 17th, 2010, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth herein below, all of the right, title, and interests of Defendants in and to the property described as:

Lot No. 001 T 33, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 T 00, the original of which was registered 23 JUL 70 as Document No. 100-A at Land Registry, Saipan.

1. **Date, Time, and Place of Sale:** The sale will be held on Friday, October 15th , 2010, at the Law Offices of Timothy H. Bellas, Cactus St., & Botones Ave., Garapan, at the hour of 10:00 a.m. The sale will be open to the general public.

2. **Inspection of Property:** The property described above is located on Tinian, Northern Mariana Islands. It is the obligation of the bidder to inspect the property. Failure to inspect the property or any portion thereof will not constitute grounds for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

3. **Warranties and Covenants:** All property listed for sale in this Amended Notice will be sold in its current condition, and at its current location. The sale will be held without any warranties or covenants whatsoever, whether express or implied, including but not limited to warranties of title, merchantability, and/or fitness for any purpose whatsoever, all of which warranties and covenants are hereby expressly disclaimed. Neither the undersigned nor the Plaintiff may give any warranty or covenant, express or implied, with respect to the property listed for sale in this Amended Notice. Neither the undersigned nor the Plaintiff shall be liable for the quality of the property listed for sale in this Amended Notice, or for any defect in the description thereof. Buyers shall not be entitled to rescission, damages, or any other remedy on account thereof.

4. **Conduct of Sale:**
   a. ***Reserve.*** The auction sale may be held with reserve. The reserve price on any property offered for sale may or may not be disclosed to bidders, in the sole discretion of the undersigned.
   b. ***Rights and Duties of Auctioneer.*** Consistent with the laws, customs, and usages of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands governing auction sales, the undersigned shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale: (1) to withdraw the property listed for sale in this Amended Notice before sale before a bid for such property is accepted; (2) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and (3) to reject, on behalf of the seller, any and/or all bids, for any reason.
   c. ***Bids.*** Bids may be submitted in advance for any or all of the property listed in this Notice. The highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Advance bids may be submitted only in writing, signed by the bidder, and delivered or mailed to the Law Offices of Timothy H. Bellas, Cactus Street, Botones Avenue, Garapan, P.O. Box 502845, Saipan, MP 96950. The bidder assumes all of risk of non-delivery, late delivery, or mis-delivery of bids. Any person, including the Plaintiff, may bid in person at the auction sale, whether or not such person has submitted an advance bid.
   d. ***Disputes.*** The undersigned may re-submit any property listed in the Amended Notice if a dispute arises as to any bid thereon.

5. **Enforcement of Auction Sale.**
   a. ***Deposit.*** Every successful bidder shall pay to the undersigned a deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price immediately after the auction is closed. Payment shall be in cash or by certified check. The balance must be paid to the Plaintiff, in care of Timothy H. Bellas Law Office Trust Account, within **three (3)** days from the date of sale, in cash or by certified check. If the balance is not so paid, Plaintiff will retain the deposit as liquidated damages, and will again offer the property for sale.

6. **Memorandum of Sale.** If requested by the undersigned, every successful bidder must sign a Memorandum of Sale, immediately after the sale of any property is struck off at auction.

7. **Changes of Terms and Conditions.** The undersigned and the Plaintiff reserve the right to change any of the terms hereof by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale, or the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on all bidders by constructive notice.

Dated this 1st day of September 2010.

/s/ By: Timothy H. Bellas
Law Offices of Timothy H. Bellas, LLC
Auctioneer
Tel. no. 323-2115

Asia

Suspected Filipino mom of mystery plane baby found

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Investigators Thursday questioned the suspected Philippine mother of a baby found alive in the trash of a Bahrain-to-Manila flight, after tracing the passenger assigned to a bloodstained seat on the plane.

Social Welfare Secretary Dinky Soliman said authorities planned DNA tests on the baby, who apparently was born during the weekend flight, and the 30-year-old woman, who was tracked down Wednesday in a remote northern province.

Authorities brought her to Manila for questioning and testing, which may not yield results until next week. They did not release her name.

"We want to be very sure that we won't ascribe this act to the wrong person," Soliman told The Associated Press.

The baby's fate drew worldwide attention after he was discovered Sunday when a security officer on the Ninoy Aquino International Airport's tarmac spied something moving in a trash bag that was unloaded from the Gulf Air flight and believed to have come from one of plane's toilets.

He found the six pound, nine ounce (three-kilogram) newborn—still attached to placenta—wrapped in tissue paper. Airport officials said the baby, already bluish in color, may have died within a few minutes had he not been found.

The baby, temporarily named George Francis after Gulf Air's flight code GF, is now fine but has undergone an X-ray due to two bumps on his head, welfare officer Thelsa Biolena said.

AP

In this photo taken Sunday, Sept. 12, 2010 and released by the Media Affairs Division of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Tuesday, Sept. 14, "George Francis," the baby boy born on a flight from the Middle East to the Philippines and abandoned in an airplane trash bag, sleeps in the airport's clinic in Manila, Philippines.

About 20 couples, including some from abroad, have offered to adopt the boy, she said.

The suspected mother was traced to the northern province of Apayao from a name on the flight manifest for a bloodstained seat near a toilet on the flight.

Apayao police chief Nestor Bergonia said the woman had apparently just arrived from abroad and has a Filipino husband. The woman, who was provided a government lawyer, refused to talk when authorities began to question her late Wednesday.

The mother could face criminal charges for abandoning her child, Soliman said.

Local media have speculated that the mother could be one of the many Filipino women who work as maids in the Middle East. About one in 10 Filipinos works abroad, many as domestic workers and laborers in the Middle East, to escape crushing poverty and unemployment at home.

ASIAN BRIEFS

5 killed as India looks to end unrest in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, India (AP)—Indian police opened fire Wednesday on Muslim demonstrators in a town near Kashmir, killing four people and wounding 30 as leaders of India's main political parties debated how to end months of separatist protests in the region. In another clash, one protester was killed and two were wounded when government forces used live ammunition in Sopore, a town northwest of Indian Kashmir's main city, Srinagar, a police officer said. Government soldiers fired when the protesters attacked them with stones while they were returning to their barracks, the officer said on condition of anonymity.

Manila officials, police face hostage crisis raps

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine justice secretary says she'll seek criminal and administrative charges against at least 10 officials, police and journalists following last month's killing of eight Hong Kong tourists who were held hostage on a bus in Manila. Justice Secretary Leila de Lima did not identify the individuals to be charged, or detail the charges. She said Thursday that those to be charged will be identified in a comprehensive report on the bungled handling of the Aug. 23 hostage crisis. The incident outraged China and the Chinese territory of Hong Kong, straining their ties with Manila.

China vows harsh penalties for food safety crimes

BEIJING (AP)—China warned Thursday that the worst offenders of food safety rules would get the death penalty in a new crackdown on an industry that has spawned embarrasing and deadly scandals in products ranging from seafood to baby formula.

Chinese authorities already have used capital punishment in some of the most egregious food safety violations, but appeared to be expressing their intention to become even more aggressive in prosecuting such cases.

Khmer Rouge tribunal indicts 4 senior leaders

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP)—Cambodia's genocide tribunal has formally indicted four former leaders of the Khmer Rouge, paving the way for its second trial to begin next year. The U.N.-assisted tribunal said Thursday its investigating judges issued the indictment after completing their investigation. The trial is expected to begin by the middle of next year against Nuon Chea, the group's ideologist; former head of state Khieu Samphan; former Foreign Minister Ieng Sary; and his wife Ieng Thirith, the ex-minister for social affairs. They each face four charges, including crimes against humanity, genocide, murder and religious persecution. Their 1970s communist regime is believed responsible for the deaths of 1.7 million people.

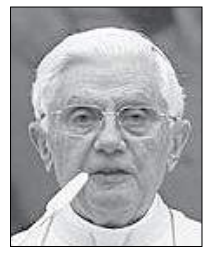
World

Pope to begin 4-day UK visit with Scotland stop

EDINBURGH, Scotland (AP)—After months of preparation and controversy, Pope Benedict XVI arrives in the United Kingdom on Thursday for a four-day visit overshadowed by sex abuse scandals that have shaken confidence in the church.

Thousands of tickets to papal events remain unclaimed in an increasingly secular country even as many of the faithful express joy about his imminent arrival.

The trip is the first state visit by a pope to the U.K., and he will be received by Queen Elizabeth II at her official residence in Scotland, symbolically significant because of the historic divide between the officially Protestant nation and the Catholic Church.



Benedict XVI

The queen is head of the Church of England, which split acrimoniously from Rome in the 16th century, a division followed by centuries of anti-Catholic sentiment. The visit also coincides with the 450th anniversary of the Reformation in Scotland.

The pope left from Rome's Ciampino airport at about 0615 GMT (2:15 a.m. EDT) in sunny weather. He was due to arrive at Edinburgh airport at 0930 GMT (5:30 a.m. EDT).

After meeting the queen at The Palace of Holyrood House Thursday morning, the Pope will take part in a parade through Edinburgh city center where police expect up to 100,000 well-wishers to line the streets. The Scottish Government plans to fly the Vatican City flag at its headquarters to mark the historic visit.

Hundreds of thousands party as Mexico turns 200

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Mexico looked beyond its drug war to throw a 200th birthday bash celebrating a proud history, whimsical culture and resilience embodied in the traditional independence cry: "Viva Mexico!"

Across the capital, hundreds of thousands of people flooded the streets despite their fears, blowing horns and dancing alongside a parade of serpent floats, marching cacti and 13-foot-tall warrior marionettes and staying late into the night at open-air concerts.

President Felipe Calderon capped the evening by ringing the original independence bell from a balcony in the Zocalo square and delivering "El Grito," patterned on founding father Miguel Hidalgo's 1810 call to arms against Spain: "Long live independence. Love live the bicentennial ... Long live Mexico!"

Roaring thousands echoed his cry as fireworks exploded in the square and at the iconic Angel of Independence about 2 miles (3.2 kilometers) down the city's crowded main promenade.

"I love being Mexican!" said Michel Dosal, wearing a green, white and red Mohawk wig.

After peace talks, Clinton heads to West Bank

JERUSALEM (AP)—After two days of inconclusive Mideast peace negotiations, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton was heading to the Palestinian Authority's headquarters in the West Bank for one-on-one talks with President Mahmoud Abbas.

Afterwards, Clinton was scheduled to travel Thursday to Amman for a working lunch with Jordan's King Abdullah, whose country already has a peace treaty with Israel and is a strong supporter of efforts to work out a deal between Israel and the Palestinians.

The Israeli-Palestinian peace negotiations—which started Tuesday in Egypt and concluded Wednesday in Jerusalem - produced no apparent breakthrough. Both sides said they would continue striving toward their goal of a final settlement within one year.

Dates for the next round of negotiations at the leaders' level are supposed to be determined during consultations next week.

WORLD BRIEFS

Bahamas Jaws Beach boater likely found in shark

NASSAU, Bahamas (AP)—A boater who disappeared off Jaws Beach—on an island where one of the "Jaws" movies was filmed—is likely the person whose remains were found in the belly of a shark, police say. Authorities used fingerprints to identify Judson Newton, although they are still waiting for DNA test results, Assistant Police Commissioner Hulan Hanna said late Tuesday. It is unclear if the 43-year-old Newton was alive when he was eaten. Newton went on a boating trip with friends off Jaws Beach on New Providence Island on Aug. 29 and encountered engine trouble. Rescuers who responded to a call for help found three men aboard who said that Newton and a friend jumped into the water to try to swim back to shore. Officials launched a search for them, but neither was found.

DomRep probes 16 baby deaths at public hospital

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (AP)—Health officials are investigating the recent deaths of 16 newborns in the capital's largest maternity hospital, hinting that unhygienic conditions are to blame. A panel probing the deaths found that certain hospital areas were "very contaminated," Senen Caba, president of the Dominican Medical Association, told The Associated Press on Wednesday. He declined to elaborate and said the investigation is ongoing. The Health Ministry has launched its own investigation, which Minister Bautista Rojas says is still under way. The 16 babies died within a week in late August at the public hospital Our Lady of High Grace in Santo Domingo. Officials at the hospital say there are on average 35 births a day.

France hits back at criticism on Gypsy roundups

PARIS (AP)—President Nicolas Sarkozy's government fired back Wednesday at European Commission criticism of France's crackdown on Gypsies, or Roma, saying some of the complaints are unacceptable. A day earlier, EU Justice Commissioner Viviane Reding had called France's expulsions of Roma to Eastern Europe "a disgrace"—as well as something she "thought that Europe would not have to witness again after the second World War." The exchange heightened tensions between France and the European Union a day before a summit of EU leaders Thursday in Brussels and forced the European Commission president to go into damage control, saying Reding had not meant to compare World War II and today.

Off the Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Pancakes or prayer? IHOP sues mission over acronym

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—The International House of Pancakes is suing another IHOP, the International House of Prayer, saying the church mission shouldn't be allowed to take advantage of the restaurant chain's famous name and acronym. The Kansas City Star reports that the chain says it sued only after the church mission refused repeated requests to stop using the IHOP acronym. Restaurant spokesman Patrick Lenow said the church has expanded and some branches are serving food. The lawsuit was filed last week in federal court in Los Angeles. Gary Cooper, a former Houston attorney who until recently served as the church mission's chief financial officer, said he didn't think the lawsuit had any legal basis. The religious group, which promotes its belief in daily, continuous prayer, has drawn thousands of people to Kansas City since it opened 10 years ago.

Police: Naked woman steals Louisiana cab

COVINGTON, La. (AP)—Police in Louisiana say a woman stripped in the back seat of a cab, demanded the driver take her to her home state of Michigan and when he refused, stole his cab. Covington Police Capt. Jack West told The Times-Picayune that the driver picked up 29-year-old Jennifer Gille of St. Clair Shores, Mich., about 1 a.m. Sunday. West says Gille refused to get out when they reached their destination, stripped and demanded the cabbie take her home. West said the driver went to a police station for help and when inside, Gille drove off. Police found the cab parked about a block away and Gille was still naked. Police booked her on charges of unauthorized use of a movable vehicle and obscenity. She was released from jail late Tuesday on a $75 signature bond. No phone listing for her could be found in either state.

Police seek Darth Vader-masked robbery suspect

FERNDALE, Mich. (AP)—Ferndale police are seeking a man who wore a plastic Darth Vader mask before pulling a butcher knife and robbing a convenience store. Authorities said the holdup happened about 1:35 p.m. Monday at the Get & Go store in the Detroit suburb north-northwest of Detroit. Police said the man fled after demanding all the cash from the register. But Lt. William Wilson told The Daily Tribune of Royal Oak the suspect made a "significant mistake" because he was in range of a store surveillance camera before he donned the mask. Police described the suspect as a white male, 5-foot-10, 180 pounds, with dark hair and a goatee. He was wearing a blue V-neck sweater with a gray T-shirt and dark pants.

Students' message in bottle ends up in the Azores

CASTINE, Maine (AP)—Three Maine students who launched a message in a bottle in 2008 hoped it would make it all the way to Europe. It didn't make it to the mainland, but it made it as far as the Azores, a Portuguese archipelago in the Atlantic Ocean. The Bangor Daily News reported seventh-grader Dustin Colson and sixth-graders Liam Griffith and Hannah Flood had all but forgotten about the bottle until it was discovered this summer. Flood's dad and her uncle agreed to drop bottles into the water off the Bahamas in March 2008 while setting weather buoys. Cheryl McFadden at the Adams School in Castine said the idea was to see if the Gulf Stream would take the bottles to Europe. The bottle traveled about 3,000 miles.

171 animals seized from Arizona family's home

FLORENCE, Ariz. (AP)—Authorities say 171 animals were seized from an Arizona trailer home that had no running water or litter boxes. Authorities say a couple and their two teenage children were living in the home with the 152 cats and 19 dogs. The Pinal County Animal Care and Control director says there were layers of feces on the floor throughout the trailer in the Hidden Valley community just south of Maricopa. With help from the sheriff's department, the animals were taken in a horse trailer to an Animal Care and Control facility. The owners on Tuesday signed all of the animals over to the agency. Authorities say the healthy animals will be put up for adoption. It's not immediately clear whether the owners will be charged with animal cruelty.

Cops: SC robber says 'thank you,' gets no money

NORTH CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP)—Authorities said a would-be South Carolina bank robber left with a polite "thank you" after a teller told him she didn't have any money in her cash drawer. North Charleston police told multiple media outlets that 31-year-old Melvin Jesse Blain walked into a Wachovia branch Tuesday afternoon with a note saying he was robbing the bank and asking for $30,000. Investigators said the teller told Blain she had no money and he walked out empty-handed, saying "thank you." Not long after, officers stopped Blain walking near the bank. Police said he told them he just finished a nearly four-year prison sentence for bank robbery and didn't want to go back. Blain was charged with entering a bank with the intent to steal. It wasn't immediately clear if he had an attorney.

RESCUE MISSION AP

A Tuesday, Sept. 14, 2010 photo provided by the Clackamas Fire District 1 shows Oregon firefighters working to rescue a camel, Moses, who got stuck in a sinkhole 6 to 8 feet deep after he fell in. Firefighters were called by the Oregon City owners of the camel, who have several camels and run a children's ministry. Firefighters shoveled mud for several hours to free him. The rescuers were concerned Moses would break his legs if he'd try to free himself while still partially buried. But Moses was patient, and eventually firefighters got him out. Moses lay on his side for an hour resting after the rescue. A veterinarian said the animal looked unhurt.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP10-REV-117

SUBMISSION: TUESDAY, OCT. 05, 2010 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"OFFICE SPACE RENTAL ON SAIPAN CNMI FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE/DIVISION OF REVENUE AND TAXATION"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO U.S. CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENT AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE BID IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIM

/s/ **ROBERT A. SCHRACK**
SECRETARY OF FINANCE

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
Director, P&S

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS
FOR
CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES
for the
Saipan International Airport Restroom Repairs and Water Pump Improvements
AIP Nos. 3-69-0002-62/65/66 (Project No. CPA-SA-002-09)

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested firms to perform construction management services for the Saipan International Airport Restroom Repairs and Water Pump Improvements, AIP Nos. 3-69-0002-62/65/66 (Project No. CPA-SA-002-09), Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification from firms should address the areas generally described below:

A. Overall construction management experience in the Pacific area and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands;

B. Specialized experience and technical competence in the type of work required and previous experience with projects similar in scope;

C. Key personnel's professional qualifications, experience and availability for the proposed services; their reputation and professional integrity and competence; and their knowledge of FAA regulations, policies and procedures;

D. Quality of projects previously undertaken and capability to complete projects without having major cost escalations or overruns;

E. Past performance on contracts including cost control, quality of work and current workload and demonstrated ability to meet schedules and deadlines;

F. Firms must have a valid CNMI Business License and the ability to perform the construction management activities in the CNMI.

Interested firms must submit one (1) original and four (4) copies each of their statements of professional qualifications for each service offered no later than **4:30 p.m., Friday, October 1, 2010.**

Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330. Only firms who have established an office in the Commonwealth and a valid business license will be considered.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to:
Mr. Edward M. Deleon Guerrero
Executive Director
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

Date: August 27, 2010

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS
FOR
CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES
for the
Saipan International Airport ARFF Training Facility Improvements
AIP No. 3-69-0002-68/69 (Project No. CPA-SA-011-09)

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested firms to perform construction management services for the Saipan International Airport ARFF Training Facility Improvements Project, AIP No. 3-69-0002-68/69, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification from firms should address the areas generally described below:

A. Overall construction management experience in the Pacific area and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands;

B. Specialized experience and technical competence in the type of work required and previous experience with projects similar in scope;

C. Key personnel's professional qualifications, experience and availability for the proposed services; their reputation and professional integrity and competence; and their knowledge of FAA regulations, policies and procedures;

D. Quality of projects previously undertaken and capability to complete projects without having major cost escalations or overruns;

E. Past performance on contracts including cost control, quality of work and current workload and demonstrated ability to meet schedules and deadlines;

F. Firms must have a valid CNMI Business License and the ability to perform the construction management activities in the CNMI.

Interested firms must submit one (1) original and four (4) copies each of their statements of professional qualifications for each service offered no later than **4:30 p.m., Friday, October 8, 2010.**

Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330. Only firms who have established an office in the Commonwealth and a valid business license will be considered.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to:
Mr. Edward M. Deleon Guerrero
Executive Director
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

Date: August 27, 2010

Science & Technology

Free website offers array of photo-editing tools

By CRAIG CROSSMAN
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

There's an abundance of applications you can buy to edit your photos. At the top of the heap is Adobe's Photoshop, which weighs in as the $600 gorilla.

When it comes to photographs, you can pretty much do it all with Photoshop. Adobe even makes a scaled down version called Elements for around $99. It uses the same Photoshop "engine" but is more consumer-friendly in that you don't have to be a photo-manipulative expert to productively use it. Adobe makes versions for both Macintosh and Windows.

But if you don't have the time to learn or the money to spend on these or any of the other fine photo-manipulative products out there, check out a website that lets you do a variety of those photo-enhancing manipulations.

Yes, it's a website and not a product you buy or a service to which you have to subscribe. In fact, it's completely free, so now is certainly a good time to check out picnik.com.

Picnik.com uses a web browser such as Firefox or Internet Explorer to do its thing. You just log onto the Picnik website and begin. When I surfed on over, I began by clicking on the "Upload Photo" button. A dialog box appeared on my computer, and I selected one of the photos I had on my computer's hard drive. Picnik.com uploaded the image to the Picnik website and I was presented with an editing screen that displayed my photo.

A series of tabs above the image let me select from a variety of features. The "Edit" tab offers actions such as rotate, crop, resize, exposure, colors, sharpen and red-eye. All of these abilities are fairly self-explanatory, but picnik.com let me easily experiment without the worry of corrupting my original photo, which remained safely stored on my computer.

ON THE NET
www.picnik.com

Clicking on the "Exposure" button, for example, brought up two sliders: one for brightness and the other for contrast. As with everything on picnik.com, sliding either of them instantly reflects the changes to the image. An auto-fix feature lets picnik.com do the adjustments for you. In fact there's an auto-fix for colors as well as a master auto-fix that does a really good job of making your original photo look its very best.

With every adjustment is an "Undo" and "Redo" button as well. In no way, shape or form are you burning any bridges. Besides, you still have your original photo safely on your computer. Remember that everything you are doing on picnik.com is with a copy you uploaded to the website.

The "Creative Tools" tab offers additional special effects like converting the photo to black and white. Others are sepia, boost, soften, border, tint and many more. I found myself have quite a time playing around with all of them.

The last tab is "Save & Share." This lets you take your adjusted photo, define its size and file type (jpeg, TIFF, etc.) and save it back onto your computer's hard drive. Other options let you save the photo to Flickr, Picasa, Facebook, email it or send it directly to your computer's printer.

If you want even more features, Picnik Premium offers added effects such as "Beauty Tools," which gets rid of facial blemishes; additional fonts; layers and more. Check the picnik.com website for further details and charges. And by the way, picnik.com truly epitomizes the concept of the Internet being platform-independent as all of this works on computers running Windows, Macintosh and, yes, even Linux.

picnik
Start Picnicking »
Picnik Premium: Now in 3 tasty flavors!
Photo editing made fun
Picnik makes your photos fabulous with easy to use yet powerful editing tools. Tweak to your heart's content, then get creative with oodles of effects, fonts, shapes, and frames.
It's fast, easy, and fun.
Get started now!
Free! No registration required.
• Fix your photos in just one click
• Use advanced controls to fine-tune your results
• Crop, resize, and rotate in real-time
• Tons of special effects, from artsy to fun
• Astoundingly fast, right in your browser
• Awesome fonts and top-quality type tool
• Basketfuls of shapes from hand-picked designers
• Works on Mac, Windows, and Linux
• No download required, nothing to install
All this for free! Want more? Upgrade to Picnik Premium for only $24.95 a year!

Picnik.com uses a web browser such as Firefox or Internet Explorer to do its thing. You just log onto the Picnik website and begin.

Microsoft promises zippier Internet Explorer

SEATTLE (AP)—Microsoft Corp. unveiled the "beta" test version of Internet Explorer 9 on Wednesday, the first of a new generation of Web browser programs that tap into the powerful processors on board newer computers to make websites load and run faster.

IE9, which is free, also arrives with a more minimalist look and a few new tricks that start to blur the distinction between a website and a traditional desktop application.

Following the lead of Google Inc.'s stripped-down Chrome browser, Microsoft's IE9 comes with far fewer buttons, icons and toolbars cluttering up the top of the screen. Its frame is translucent, and as people browse the Web, IE9 can be subtly adorned with small icons and signature colors of the websites being viewed.

The new browser also takes cues from Windows 7, Microsoft's most recent operating system software for personal computers. In Windows 7, people can "pin" favorite programs to the task bar at the bottom of the screen, creating a one-click shortcut. They can also customize a menu of options for each program, such as opening a frequently used file in Microsoft Word.

IE9 lets people pin individual websites to the taskbar, and some sites have already customized their so-called "jumplist" menus. For example, when people pin USA Today's site, the icon in the taskbar can display a menu that mirrors the color-coded sections of the newspaper.

The aesthetic changes bring IE9 in line with Microsoft's newer software, but the changes under the hood push Microsoft's technology a step ahead of its competition. The browser can take advantage of multicore microprocessors to crunch website code faster. It also uses the PC's graphics processing unit—the same chips that make the images in elaborate video games run smoothly—to make images, animations, movie clips and other visuals appear or play faster.

WEB WINNERS

Find resources to help start a company

By REID KANALEY
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

Entrepreneurship is an engine of business, and it is as important as ever as the economy continues to try for a full recovery. Check these sites designed for people who start companies.

■ START-UPS

The economy may be ripe for a new wave of start-up companies, says the entrepreneurship-boosting Kauffman Foundation. That's an especially good thing because "start-ups and young companies dominate net job creation in the United States—and have done so for the last 30 years," the foundation reports. Few companies exist for longer than a generation, so it's vital to keep getting new ones off the ground. The foundation has educational and research material for fostering such growth. http://www.entrepreneurship.org

■ ENTREPRENEURSHIP RESOURCES

The Kauffman Foundation and the U.S. Commerce Department's International Trade Administration operate this site with a good list of government and nonprofit groups that promote entrepreneurship, economic development, and other initiatives around the world. Visiting the site can broaden your horizons with a glimpse of the potential for taking even a small business outside the U.S. boundary. http://go.philly.com/startup1

■ HERE IS A TREASURE

Academic Earth is posting video lectures—1,500 of them so far from schools including MIT, Harvard, and Yale—that anyone can watch for free. The video courses cover an extraordinary range of topics, such as art, astronomy, computer science, law and psychology. This entrepreneurship page has more than a dozen courses by business leaders. http://go.philly.com/startup2

■ TEACHING ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship helps teachers encourage youngsters in low-income communities to learn to start and build businesses. Its programs include curricula for classrooms, after-school programs and camps. It also runs business-plan competitions that reward winners with grants for college or business start-up expenses. The group also recruits entrepreneurs to volunteer as speakers and competition judges. http://www.nfte.com

STUMP THE GEEKS

Misdirection points straight to malware

By ANNE KRISHNAN
THE NEWS & OBSERVER

QUESTION: My PC runs on XP, and all of a sudden when I try to open up a PDF or view a DVD using Windows Media Player, the programs do not work. I am redirected to Adobe's site and asked to buy Reader, a program that was free for ages.

Is this a scam? Are there other programs that will work free instead?

Also, when I try to use Windows Media Player, I am directed to a number of sites that want to sell me a connector or something so it will work. I do not want to spend money on something that was working fine before.—M.A., Raleigh, N.C.

ANSWER: Unfortunately, the fact that you're being redirected to sites trying to sell you free programs indicates that your computer has been hijacked by some form of malware, says Paul Rosenberg, owner of Chapel Hill, N.C.-based Love Your Computer.

Working around the issue by using other applications will not solve the problem, he said. Instead, you need to get rid of the malware causing the problem.

While I often recommend various antivirus and anti-spyware programs (with limited success for some readers), Rosenberg strongly recommends having your computer professionally evaluated and secured.

Many of these types of hijacks can be very difficult to trace and remove, he said. He regularly sees malware that impersonates critical system files, making it very hard to detect with most malware-scanning products.

Even after professional evaluation, the problem might remain.

"If you find yourself strangely redirected to unknown websites, then your system is still compromised and might require repeat service," he said.

Plus, attempting virus removal yourself using online virus removal services can be tricky, he said, as compromised systems need to be isolated, not connected to the Internet.

"Custom malware is far too sophisticated now to rely on this," he said.

Once your system is secured, you should be able to go back to using Reader and Windows Media Player as before.

■■■

Q: Back in my working days, we used Lotus Notes for intra-company communication. With Notes you had two choices when replying to an e-mail message: "Reply" and "Reply w/History."

Now I'm home using Microsoft, and I have only one choice: "Reply."

If I want to "Reply w/History," I have to select "Tools," "Options," "Send," "Include Message in Reply," "Apply" and "OK." Is there a mod or upgrade to Microsoft Mail that gives me a one click option to "Reply w/ History," or is there another e-mail program that provides this functionality?—R.B.

A: All Microsoft mail clients have "Include Message in Reply" as a global switch, Rosenberg said.

That means that once it's turned on, your original message will be included in every reply. His research indicates that the "Reply w/History" choice is a feature unique to Lotus.

Think you can stump the geeks? Send your high-tech question to stumpthegeeks@newsobserver.com. Please include your name, address and daytime phone number. Individual replies are not given.

Life & Style

Hyatt celebrates Oktoberfest at Kili Terrace

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Oktoberfest will be in full swing on island when Hyatt Regency Saipan marks the launching of the "German Fest" banquet at Kili Terrace from Sept. 17 to 22 with an RSVP stand up cocktail party at the lobby lounge at 6pm tonight.

Invited guests will have a taste of impeccably prepared German appetizers, paired with ice-cold beers, said Food and Beverage Director Ranjeet Rajebhosale.

"People look forward to Oktoberfest basically for the German delicacies, food, sausages, sauerkrauts, and of course the beer," he said.

The much-anticipated 16-day festival held in the city of Munich in Bavaria, Germany, is the world's largest beer swigging, sausage gobbling festival as some six million beer lovers from across the globe take part in the revelries.

On Oct. 12, 1810, the first Oktoberfest was held to celebrate the union of the Bavarian Crown Prince Ludwig to Princess Therese von Sachsen-Hildburghausen. The festivities ended with a horse race on Oct. 17.

This year's 200th anniversary of Oktoberfest is highlighted by the official tapping of the keg, a mass, the Parade of Oktoberfest Landlords and Breweries, Costume and Rifleman's Parade, the Böllerschießen or the handheld canon salute, and an agricultural festival.

According to Rajebhosale, no other restaurant on island offers their sweet Oktoberfest deal where diners can delight in a German feast for only $38 per person.

AP
Oktoberfest, the much-anticipated 16-day festival held in Munich, Germany, is the world's largest beer swigging, sausage gobbling festival as some six million beer lovers from across the globe take part in the revelries.

"Hyatt is the only hotel that comes up with this promotional activity for Oktoberfest. We have the capability to be able to make this kind of menu," he added.

Rajebhosale said people who love to look forward to this annual event would certainly love the impeccably served German fares prepared in style by Hyatt's expert team led by Executive Chef Gabriel Colombo.

Colombo told *Saipan Tribune* that dishes from Germany, the heart of Europe, are "heavy and robust" with their unique style of cooking meat, which is usually slow cooked.

For six days, Colombo said Kili Terrace guests can enjoy a wide variety of German bread, sausages, entrees, and desserts.

Diners can feast in Roggenbrot or rye bread and Brotchen or Bavarian Bread Rolls. Kili's carving station will offer the sumptuous Esterhazy Rostbraten, which is Roast Sirloin with Julienne vegetables in creamy demi glace.

A barbecue station will supply heart-stopping iterations of meat, including Sortierte Rostbratwurste or assorted Bavarian barbecue sausages and Schweinskotelett or pork chops.

Sample the hot entrees like the Bavarian Braised Beef with Egg Dumpling or the Steamed Halibut with Thyme, Basil and White Wine.

Indulge in supremely comforting German desserts like the Bavarian plum cake, Apple Strudel, and the Lager Chocolate Truffle.

According to Rajebhosale, they are partnering up with Marpac for the Oktoberfest promo so guests can enjoy a delectable and extensive meal with German beer Becks.

Rajebhosale urged the public to check out their "German Fest" promo as this is 'something different, something unique.'

"People are used to Asian cuisines such as Japanese, Chinese and Korean dishes. But European cuisines are the kind of food that is not readily available. This is a good opportunity to try it. It's great food," said the F&B director.

Put on your lederhosen and raise your beer mug for a Bavarian toast only at Kili Terrace at the Hyatt Regency. Club at the Hyatt rates apply. For reservation or more information, call 234-1234.

Biography paints French first lady as 'chameleon'

By JENNY BARCHFIELD
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

PARIS (AP)—French President Nicolas Sarkozy's marriage to Carla Bruni, an Italian-born heiress and ex-supermodel long considered among the world's most desirable women, was touted as a coup for the French leader.

But the author of "Carla: A Secret Life"—an unauthorized biography chronicling her transformation from an allegedly tempestuous man-eater into an apparent meek, model spouse—suggests Carla Bruni-Sarkozy has become something of a political liability for her husband.

Besma Lahouri says Bruni-Sarkozy's alleged rivalry with Michelle Obama has strained relations between the French and U.S. presidential couples, and her image of distant, well-heeled perfection has kept her at arm's length from the French people.

At a time when the conservative president's popularity has plummeted, and he is being criticized for raising the retirement age and cracking down on Eastern European Gypsy immigrants, having a more accessible first lady might soften his image, she said.

"The French don't know their first lady, and her worries seem to them very far removed from their own," Lahouri told The Associated Press in an interview Tuesday, a day ahead of the much-anticipated release of her book.

All the French have seen of Bruni-Sarkozy of late, Lahouri said, is footage of her with the Queen of England and other dignitaries, picture-perfect in Christian Dior skirt suits with marching hats, shoes and handbags.

Once regarded as a poster child of the "gauche caviar," France's moneyed progressives, Bruni-Sarkozy "turned her back on her political convictions" following her 2008 marriage with Sarkozy, a tough-talking conservative, Lahouri said. "Suddenly, the Carla Bruni of yesteryear, who was free and spoke out, no longer existed. ... and she doesn't even support her husband. You never hear her publicly stand up in his defense, either."

Lahouri added it was precisely this contrast between the outspoken top model who appeared to revel in the glow of flashbulbs, living out a series of love affairs with rich and famous men in the spotlight, and the demure first lady with her sensible flats and downcast eyes that initially piqued her curiosity.

A longtime investigative reporter with L'Express news magazine and author of an unauthorized biography of French soccer icon Zinedine Zidane, Lahouri said she interviewed about 100 people—including longtime friends, fashion designers and even Bruni-Sarkozy's childhood nanny—during her research for "Carla."

But she never interviewed the first lady herself.

Bruni-Sarkozy declined Lahouri's interview requests, the author said, and the Elysee presidential palace didn't return calls from the AP seeking comment on the book—which describes Bruni-Sarkozy's life, depicting a lonesome but fabulously wealthy childhood in Turin, Italy, through her relationships with the likes of Mick Jagger and Eric Clapton through her first meeting with Sarkozy in late 2007 and their marriage just months later.

Ahead of the book's release Wednesday, French media was abuzz with questions about how much dirt it would dish. Though Lahouri said the specter of a lawsuit forced her to edit the book liberally, there's plenty of hot-button material left.

Lahouri quotes an unnamed plastic surgeon as insinuating he redid Bruni-Sarkozy's nose during the height of her modeling career in the 1990s. The author chronicles Bruni-Sarkozy's well-calculated entree into the world of rock 'n' roll, which led to her liaisons with Clapton and Jagger, who Lahouri says was married to model Jerry Hall throughout their eight-year-long relationship.

As first lady, Lahouri says, Bruni-Sarkozy's obsessions have shifted away from rock stars to women she perceives as rivals—Nicolas Sarkozy's second wife Cecilia, who was divorced from the French president months after he took office—and Michelle Obama, described in the book as "the only one in (Carla's) eyes able to challenge her for the title of the world's sexiest and most glamorous first lady."

The book chronicles the minutia of the first ladies' various meetings, suggesting that Obama's alleged antipathy, or perhaps just indifference, to Bruni-Sarkozy has allegedly helped keep relations frosty between the French and U.S. presidential couples.

Lahouri says Bruni-Sarkozy is "a chameleon," someone who has "trained herself to be a formidable actress."

"She is a very foxy woman—I choose the word 'foxy' over 'clever.' In fact, very foxy."

Singer Michael Grimm wins 'America's Got Talent'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Bluesy crooner Michael Grimm has traded his fedora for the crown on "America's Got Talent."

Grimm, a native of Waveland, Miss., was revealed as the winner of the NBC variety competition on its season conclusion airing Wednesday. Viewers had cast their votes after Tuesday's performance show.

Grimm, 30, looked shocked when he heard his name announced. Then he bent to hug and earnestly console the runner-up, 10-year-old soprano sensation Jackie Evancho of Pittsburgh.

Many handicappers had expected Jackie to be the top vote-getter. Her pure, powerful voice repeatedly left the judges (Piers Morgan, Sharon Osbourne and Howie Mandel) scrambling to find new ways to sing her praises.

But Grimm's soft-spoken manner and signature stingy-brimmed hat endeared him to "Talent" viewers, along with his soulful vocals. Describing himself as "just a boy from Mississippi," he more than once expressed surprise that he had made it through the weeks of competition.

From the start he had said that, if he won, he wanted to use some of his prize money to help his grandparents, who raised him and lost everything in Hurricane Katrina. He plans to give them a new home.

Along with his $1 million prize as winner, Grimm will headline a national "America's Got Talent" live tour.

The two other finalists were

In this July 20, 2010 publicity image released by NBC, contestant Michael Grimm is shown on "America's Got Talent," in Los Angeles.

AP

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Devil

Friday		4:15	7:15	9:45
Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:15	9:45
Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:15	
Mon through Thurs		4:15	7:15	

Chris Mesina, Geoffrey Arend
Thriller, Horror • Rated PG 13

Synopsis
The first in a series of collaborations from Media Rights Capital and M. Night Shyamalan comes in the form of Devil, a supernatural horror film based on an idea by the enigmatic filmmaker. Going off of a script by Brian Nelson is Quarantine director John Erick Dowdle, who handles producing duties with his brother Drew.

Alpha And Omega

Friday		4:00	7:00	9:50
Saturday	1:00	4:00	7:00	9:50
Sunday	1:00	4:00	7:00	
Mon through Thurs		4:00	7:00	

Justin Long, Christina Ricci
Children's, Family • Rated PG 13

Synopsis
Lionsgate presents this animated tale of two wolves (voiced by Justin Long and Hayden Panettiere) trying to find their way home to their pack after being kidnapped. Christina Ricci, Danny Glover, Dennis Hopper, and Larry Miller also supply voices for the Crest Animation production, helmed by Anthony Bell and Ben Gluck from a script by Chris Denk.

The Town

Friday		4:25	7:25	9:55
Saturday	1:25	4:25	7:25	9:55
Sunday	1:25	4:25	7:25	
Mon through Thurs		4:25	7:25	

Ben Affleck, Rebecca Hall
Crime • Rated R

Synopsis
Gone Baby Gone director Ben Affleck adapts author Chuck Hogan's Hammett Prize-winning novel concerning four thieves who are hunted on the streets of Boston by a determined FBI agent and a woman with the power to bring them all to their knees.

Resident Evil: Afterlife

Friday		4:30	7:30	10:00
Saturday	1:30	4:30	7:30	10:00
Sunday	1:30	4:30	7:30	
Mon through Thurs		4:30	7:30	

Mila Jovovich, Ali Larter
Action, Horror • Rated R

Machete

Friday		4:05	7:05	9:40
Saturday	1:05	4:05	7:05	9:40
Sunday	1:05	4:05	7:05	
Mon through Thurs		4:05	7:05	

Danny Trejo, Robert DeNiro
Action • Rated R

The Expendables

Friday		4:10	7:20	9:30
Saturday	1:20	4:10	7:20	9:30
Sunday	1:20	4:10	7:20	
Mon through Thurs		4:10	7:20	

Sylvester Stallone, Jason Statham
War • Rated R

The Other Guys

Friday		4:20	7:10	9:35
Saturday	1:10	4:20	7:10	9:35
Sunday	1:10	4:20	7:10	
Mon through Thurs		4:20	7:10	

Mark Wahlberg, Will Farrell
Comedy • Rated PG 13

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'Idol' opens new auditions on MySpace

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The first online auditions for "American Idol" are open.

To mark the Fox TV show's 10th anniversary, hopeful pop stars have the chance to submit an audition video at MySpace through Oct. 6.

The entries must be no longer than 40 seconds and chosen from a list of songs posted online, along with other audition guidelines, Fox said Wednesday. Contestants for the show must be between the ages of 15 and 28.

The song possibilities include Bill Withers' "Ain't No Sunshine," Keith Urban's "Kiss a Girl" and Barry Manilow's "Copacabana."

A "select number" of people will move on to a tryout in Los Angeles, the network said, but didn't specify how many.

In 2007, "American Idol" staged its first online contest, this one for songwriters.

Auditions held this summer in cities including Nashville, Tenn., and Austin, Texas, drew tens of thousands of people. Another tryout was added for Sept. 22 in Los Angeles.

The show's next season starts in January and will feature a revamped judging panel. Steven Tyler and Jennifer Lopez are the front-runners to join Randy Jackson after the departures of Ellen DeGeneres, Simon Cowell and Kara DioGuardi.

Both Fox and MySpace are owned by media giant News Corp. Although "American Idol" hopes to stem a ratings dip to remain TV's top-rated series, the crossover could be more valuable for the flagging social networking site: MySpace has seen its advertising revenues drop.

Jackson's mother sues concert promoter AEG Live

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Michael Jackson's mother on Wednesday sued the promoter of what were intended to be the pop star's comeback concerts for fraud and other claims related to the singer's death.

The complaint accused AEG Live of failing to honor its agreement to provide the doctor charged in the singer's death with lifesaving equipment.

The suit says AEG Live was liable for the actions of Dr. Conrad Murray, who has pleaded not guilty to involuntary manslaughter in Jackson's death at age 50. Police say Murray gave Jackson an overdose of the anesthetic propofol.

AEG spokesman Michael Roth said the company has not seen the lawsuit and had no immediate comment.

Murray was acting as Jackson's personal physician and was to be paid by AEG during preparation for the concerts. However, Jackson died before signing the agreement. As a result, AEG has said the agreement was not binding.

Katherine Jackson, who is the guardian of the singer's three children, also sued on their behalf.

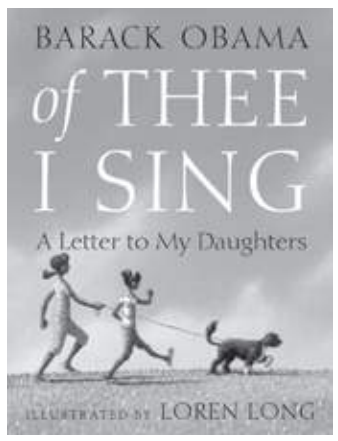
The lawsuit seeks unspecified damages.

The comeback concerts in London sold out in anticipation of Jackson's return as the "King of Pop."

Despite years of self-imposed exile, he retained a huge, loyal following of fans overjoyed at the prospect of seeing him reclaim the glory he'd attained with albums like "Thriller" and songs like "Beat It!" and "Billie Jean."

Prince Poppycock, the outlandishly costumed operatic creation of Los Angeles store clerk John Quale, and the performance troupe Fighting Gravity, a group of 13 fraternity brothers from Virginia Tech at Blacksburg, Va.

Obama children's book already a hit



NEW YORK (AP)—President Obama is still a hit with American book buyers.

Obama's tribute to 13 American ground breakers, "Of Thee I Sing," was in the top 25 on Amazon.com and Barnes & Noble.com as of Wednesday morning, less than two days after the children's book was announced and two months before its scheduled release. Random House Children's Books plans a first printing of 500,000 copies.

Both of Obama's previous works, the memoir "Dreams From My Father" and the policy book "The Audacity of Hope," are million sellers.

Obama, who finished "Of Thee I Sing" before his administration began, is the rare president to have a book come out while still in office. He will be an even rarer one if "Of Thee I Sing" is a best seller. Presidents from Ulysses S. Grant to John F. Kennedy to Bill Clinton have written popular books, but none came out while they were in the White House. Clinton's policy book, "Between Hope and History," was released near the end of his first term and sold a fraction of the memoir "My Life," published three years after his second term.

At a press briefing Wednesday, White House Press Secretary Robert Gibbs said that neither Obama nor his daughters, Malia or Sasha, who helped inspire "Of Thee I Sing," will be involved in marketing the book.

Asked about how the White House urges the media to respect the girls' privacy, but then features them on the book jacket, Gibbs said, "Our encouragement is to keep their private lives private.

"If you read the book, it is, I think the president would tell you, an inspirational book about the country they live in and about their ability and the ability for children throughout this country to dream, as the president talked about yesterday (during a back-to-school address to students), to dream big and accomplish whatever they want to," Gibbs said.

College student Hayden Moss wins 'Big Brother 12'

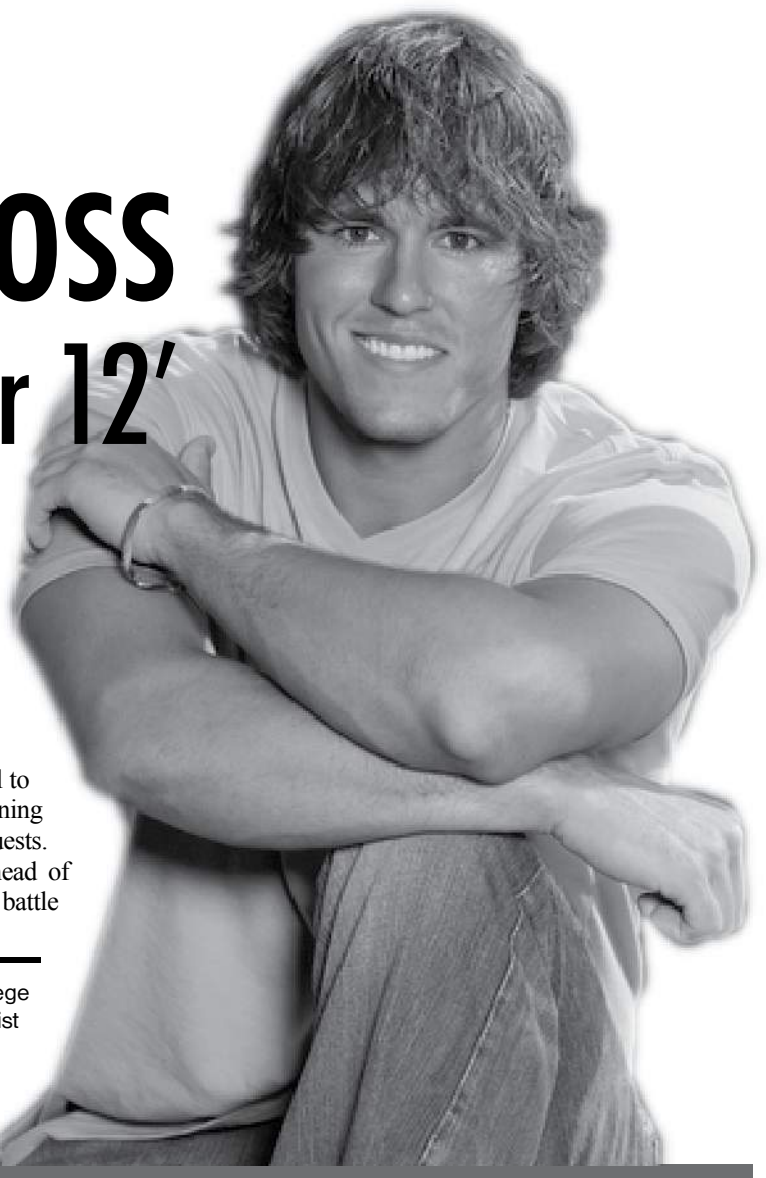
LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Animal scored the home run on "Big Brother 12."

Hayden Moss won the $500,000 grand prize on the voyeuristic CBS reality TV competition's season finale Wednesday. He is shaggy-haired 24-year-old college student and former baseball player from Tempe, Ariz., who was dubbed "The Animal" by his secret four-man alliance.

Moss bested 24-year-old oil rig salesman Lane "The Beast" Elenburg from Decatur, Texas.

Moss, who progressed through the competition staying loyal to The Brigade alliance, dominated the 12th edition by both winning several competitions and forming bonds with the other houseguests.

He defeated Elenburg in the last round of a three-part "head of household" contest, which allowed him to pick Elenburg to battle against for jury votes.



In this publicity image released by CBS, Hayden Moss, 24, a college student from Tempe, Ariz., is shown in Los Angeles. Moss is a finalist to win $500,000 on "Big Brother 12."

AP

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Taylor Swift partners with retailer for new CD

NEW YORK (AP)—Taylor Swift is the latest act to offer bonus album content to an exclusive retailer. The country superstar is aligning herself with Target Corp. for the release of her latest album, "Speak Now." The store will offer fans three additional songs, remixed tunes and video content when the album is released Oct. 25. Swift says she tries to give fans bonuses whenever she can, so she is happy to oblige with her third album. "Speak Now" is the follow-up to her Grammy-winning, multiplatinum CD "Fearless." The first single, "Mine," has hit the country chart's top 20. She debuted the song "Innocent"—about last year's MTV Video Music Awards debacle—at this year's VMAs.

Gaga speaks, Reid acts on 'don't ask, don't tell'

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Does Lady Gaga run the U.S. Senate? A spokesman for Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid said Tuesday a vote to repeal the military's ban of openly gay and lesbian soldiers had been planned for next week before the singer made waves with a plea during a daytime talk show. The pop star known for flashy performances and eccentric style called on Reid to repeal the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy in an interview with Ellen DeGeneres that aired Monday. Reid's campaign and Gaga traded talking points on Twitter after the lawmaker announced the vote. Reid told Gaga repealing the measure was the right thing to do. Campaign spokesman Kelly Steele said Reid does not take cues from Gaga.

Redford's 'Conspirator' lands a distributor

TORONTO (AP)—Robert Redford's Abraham Lincoln assassination drama "The Conspirator" has been picked up for theatrical distribution by Lionsgate and Roadside Attractions. The two companies aim for a spring 2011 release for "The Conspirator," which premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival. The $20 million production directed by Redford was one of the biggest films to enter the festival without a distributor already in place. "The Conspirator" stars Robin Wright as Mary Surratt, a boarding-house owner tried as an accomplice in the assassination by John Wilkes Booth. James McAvoy plays a Union Civil War hero reluctantly forced to defend her. The film co-stars Kevin Kline, Evan Rachel Wood, Alexis Bledel, Tom Wilkinson and Justin Long.

'Priscilla Queen of the Desert' musical finds home

NEW YORK (AP)—A musical version of "Priscilla Queen of the Desert" has found a Broadway home. Producers announced Wednesday that the show, based on the cult film "Adventures of Priscilla Queen of the Desert," will begin performances next year at the Palace Theater. The show had its world premiere in Australia in 2006 and later was a smash hit in London. The musical will have a 12-week run in Toronto beginning in October before coming to Broadway. "Priscilla Queen of the Desert the Musical" is written by Stephan Elliott and Allan Scott and directed by Simon Phillips. It stars Tony Sheldon, Will Swenson and Nick Adams as three friends who find love in the Australian outback. Previews in New York begin Feb. 28.

Hootie & The Blowfish get monument

COLUMBIA, South Carolina (AP)—Hootie & The Blowfish is getting a monument in South Carolina's capital city. The State newspaper reported that a large steel and black granite art piece will be unveiled Oct. 21 in Columbia's Five Points neighborhood, blocks from the University of South Carolina. The newspaper reported the monument is expected to be about 20 feet (6 meters) long, 10 feet (3 meters) wide and at least 12 feet (3 1/2 meters) tall. The Southern rockers sold more than 16 million copies of their debut album, "Cracked Rear View," released in 1994. The band hasn't played together much recently. They celebrate their 25th anniversary next year. Lead singer Darius Rucker has enjoyed a resurgence in country music, releasing his second solo country album next month, "Charleston SC 1966."

'Defector' author Daniel Silva has 3-book deal

NEW YORK (AP)—Best-selling novelist Daniel Silva has a new book deal. Silva has agreed to write three novels for HarperCollins. The publisher announced Wednesday the first book comes out next summer. Silva says it has a "big surprise" for his fans. Silva is the author of such hit thrillers as "The Defector" and "The Rembrandt Affair," featuring art restorer and Israeli spy Gabriel Allon. Harper spokeswoman Tina Andreadis won't comment on whether the upcoming novels will include Allon. Silva's recent work was released by G.P. Putnam's Sons, an imprint of Penguin Group (USA). Silva is married to Jamie Gangel, a national correspondent for NBC's "Today" show. His book deal was negotiated by Washington-based attorney Robert Barnett, known for political clients including President Barack Obama and former Presidents George W. Bush and Bill Clinton. Financial terms haven't been disclosed.

1st castaway kicked off 'Survivor: Nicaragua'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Wendy DeSmidt-Kohloff got off to a baaaad start on "Survivor: Nicaragua." The goat rancher from Fromberg, Mont., was the first person voted off the 21st edition of the CBS reality TV competition, which divided the tribes by age. DeSmidt-Kohloff, 48, a member of the older Espada tribe, was deemed the weakest—and weirdest—by her tribemates before she was sent packing at the conclusion of Wednesday's season premiere. "I don't feel like I connected very well with the people here," she said. Jimmy Johnson, 67, the former coach of the Dallas Cowboys and Miami Dolphins, wasn't able to lead his Espada tribe to victory in an immunity challenge that involved directing buckets of water through gutters. But the smooth talker was able to escape elimination by assuring his tribemates that a jury would never "award me a million bucks." "I'm going to be a target every single tribal council," he declared.

Wife suffering verbal abuse must find some way to flee

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to "Emile" for eight years. We have been together for the last 15. Emile has always been demeaning and sarcastic to me. When he gets upset about something he blames me.

This has been going on for so long I don't know what to do anymore. I am so depressed and hurt that all I can think of is "going away" permanently. I don't think I'd ever harm myself, but I feel more desperate and hopeless every day. I'm down so low I don't know how to come back up. Please advise.

NO TEARS LEFT IN LAS VEGAS

DEAR NO TEARS LEFT: Has no one told you that the effects of constant put-downs can be equally— if not more—debilitating than being physically abused? After 15 years of having your self-esteem chipped away, I'm pleased that you finally found the strength to ask for help.

If you have family, arrange to visit them—a LONG visit. If you can afford to separate from your husband, pick up the phone and call the National Domestic Violence Hotline ((800) 799-7233) and ask for help to safely get away. I'm not exaggerating when I say your mental health depends on it.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I live in a suburban neighborhood where the homes are very close together. My back yard is too small to have a clothesline. Because I love the smell of my bed sheets after they have dried outside, I hang them out to dry by pinning them to the chain link fence that surrounds the perimeter of my back yard.

My girlfriends say they would be offended if they were my neighbors. I say it's environmentally friendly, and because I'm hanging out only linens and not underwear, nobody should be offended. Who is correct?

IN THE BREEZE IN OTTAWA, ONTARIO, CANADA

DEAR IN THE BREEZE: Many neighborhoods have codes, covenants and restrictions that dictate what can and cannot be done within their boundaries. Review the documents to ensure you are not breaking any rules. If you're not, you have had no complaints from the neighbors, and your laundry isn't becoming soiled from flapping against the chain link fence or freezing solid in January—it's all right with me.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: A few months ago, we got a new neighbor. When I was out walking my dog one day, my neighbor was doing the same. At first I thought this person was female, but as we got to talking I began to doubt myself.

First off, my neighbor is petite, has a boyish haircut, no breasts, dresses like a guy and speaks in a voice that could be male or female. I stood there and decided I'd ask for a name, thinking it would solve my problem. Wrong! The person's name is "Chris."

Abby, I don't know what to do. I feel bad for not knowing this person's gender. Is there any way I can find an answer without Chris knowing? I don't want to refer to this person as a "he" if she's a "she," and vice versa.

GIRL NEXT DOOR, MISSOULA, MONT.

DEAR GIRL NEXT DOOR: Refer to your neighbor as Chris. Asking other neighbors what they have learned about Chris could create more conversation—and problems—than it would solve. My advice is to continue being kind and neighborly to Chris. The more you get to know this person, the more likely the answers you're seeking will present themselves.

TO MY JEWISH READERS: Sundown marks the beginning of Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement. During this 24-hour period, observant Jewish people fast, engage in reflection and prayer, and formally repent for any sin that might have been committed during the previous Hebrew year. To all of you—may your fast be an easy one.

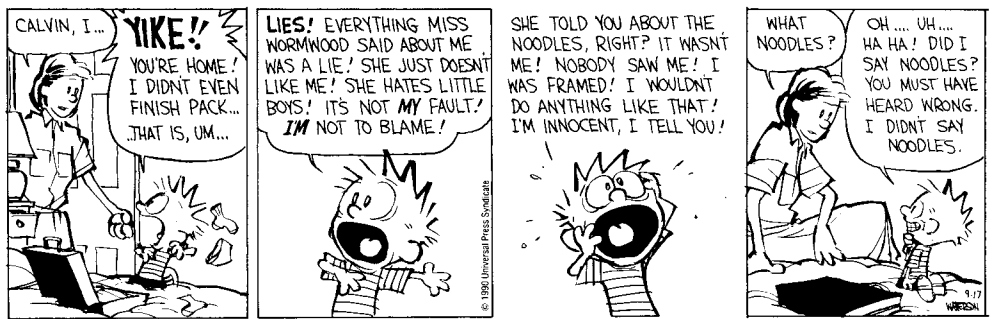
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $12 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


CALVIN, I...
YIKE!
YOU'RE HOME! I DIDN'T EVEN FINISH PACK...
...THAT IS, UM...
LIES! EVERYTHING MISS WORMWOOD SAID ABOUT ME WAS A LIE! SHE JUST DOESN'T LIKE ME! SHE HATES LITTLE BOYS! IT'S NOT MY FAULT! IM NOT TO BLAME!
© 1990 Universal Press Syndicate
SHE TOLD YOU ABOUT THE NOODLES, RIGHT? IT WASN'T ME! NOBODY SAW ME! I WAS FRAMED! I WOULDN'T DO ANYTHING LIKE THAT! I'M INNOCENT, I TELL YOU!
WHAT NOODLES?
OH.... UH.... HA HA! DID I SAY NOODLES? YOU MUST HAVE HEARD WRONG. I DIDN'T SAY NOODLES.
9-17
WATTERSON

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

SO, HOW WAS WORK TODAY, LIZ?
JIM DAVIS 9-17
www.garfield.com
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REALLY!
SHE FLOSSED A GERBIL
I HEAR THEY ARE GOOD WITH HOLLANDAISE SAUCE
Distributed by Universal Uclick

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

WELCOME, KIDS. TO THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL. THIS IS YOUR PRINCIPAL.
I THINK THIS WILL BE THE BEST YEAR WE'VE EVER HAD.
© 2010 Universal Uclick
www.gocomics.com
PLEASE NOTE, DUE TO GOVERNMENT RULES, THE VENDING MACHINES WILL NO LONGER SERVE SODA.
9-17
AND VOODOO DOLLS OF STUDENTS WILL NO LONGER BE ALLOWED IN THE TEACHERS' LOUNGE.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

SO HOW'D YOUR FIRST 5-K RUN GO?
I WAS DISQUALIFIED.
© 2010 Glenn McCoy/dist. by Universal Uclick
DURING MY RUN I ZIPPED INTO AN OFFICE DEPOT TO PICK UP A FEW OFFICE SUPPLIES.
Glenn McCoy
THEY DISQUALIFIED YOU FOR LEAVING THE RACE?
NO. FOR RUNNING WITH SCISSORS.
www.gocomics.com

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Cruise or Hanks
4 Cabbage salad
8 MRI predecessor
12 "Exodus" hero
13 Estate recipient
14 Bygone times
15 Slender stogie
17 Dregs
18 Panacea
19 "Ulalume" writer
21 Unfriendly
22 Anderson of "Baywatch"
26 Furtive sort
29 Dict. explanation
30 Central
31 Survey
32 Knight's title
33 Fourth dimension
34 Census datum
35 $ dispenser
36 The fifth element
37 Work of fiction, south of the border
39 Agt.
40 Pitch
41 Female warrior
45 Platter
48 Horn made famous at the 2010 World Cup
50 Shaving cream additive
51 — out (supplements)
52 Atmosphere
53 Indistinct view
54 Take out of context?
55 Actress Myrna

DOWN
1 Recording
2 Spoken
3 Mary Quant creation
4 Comic bit
5 Suspicious
6 Have a bug
7 Candy eater's discard
8 Woody tissue
9 Shad product
10 Exist
11 "Of course"
16 The A in "CAT scan"
20 Klutzy one
23 Eastern bigwig
24 Wheels of fortune?
25 Mideast gulf
26 Bridge
27 "Forget it"
28 Ht.
29 Badly lit
32 Famished
33 November birthstone
35 Chicken-king link
36 Baffle
38 Bygone anesthetic
39 "Bolero" composer
42 Ardor
43 Hodgepodge
44 — a soul (nobody)
45 Slight application
46 Under the weather
47 Old French coin
49 Guitar's cousin

Solution time: 25 mins.

S	W	A	T	■	O	P	E	C	■	B	U	G
O	H	I	O	■	P	I	T	A	■	A	N	A
B	A	D	M	O	U	T	H	S	■	D	D	T
S	T	A	T	U	S	■	■	T	A	B	O	O
■	■	■	■	O	R	■	D	W	E	L	L	■
I	C	B	M	■	P	R	O	■	E	O	N	S
M	O	A	■	■	O	E	R	■	■	O	A	T
P	O	D	S	■	O	A	K	■	E	D	G	Y
■	■	W	O	R	L	D	■	S	N	■	■	■
A	T	O	N	E	■	■	T	I	D	B	I	T
I	R	R	■	B	A	D	B	R	E	A	T	H
R	E	D	■	U	L	N	A	■	A	B	L	E
Y	E	S	■	S	P	A	R	■	R	E	L	Y

Yesterday's answer 9-17

1	2	3	■	4	5	6	7	■	8	9	10	11
12			■	13				■	14			
15			16					■	17			
18						■	19	20		■	■	■
■	■	■	21			■	22			23	24	25
26	27	28			■	29			■	30		
31				■	32			■	33			
34			■	35			■	36				
37			38			■	39			■	■	■
■	■	■	40			■	41			42	43	44
45	46	47		■	48	49						
50				■	51				■	52		
53				■	54				■	55		

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Mark Brunell, 40; Kyle Chandler, 45; Baz Luhrmann, 48; Cassandra Peterson, 59

Happy Birthday: You should make long overdue personal and domestic changes. Rely on past experience and what you have learned from observing others in similar situations and you will not make a mistake. Someone from your past you respect for his or her accomplishments and insight will help you now. Your numbers are 6, 9, 19, 27, 33, 39, 47

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Glide past any negativity you are facing, knowing you will come out on top as long as you don't make a fuss. Concentrate on what's really important and you will show your ability, endurance and discipline. ✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Take advantage of your position or someone else will step in and take over. Don't let a passionate encounter entice you into something you cannot finish. Stick to basics, keep your life simple and you will reach the success you deserve. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Be careful how you handle others, especially when it involves offering or asking for help. An obligation you have will become a burden if you don't respond quickly and put it behind you. A lifestyle change will turn out well. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Domestic responsibilities can wait if there is something better on your agenda. Romance is in a high cycle. Spend time with someone special—it can make a difference to the way you live in the future. Promises made now will be kept. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Tie up loose ends. Getting work out of the way will help prepare you for the upcoming weeks. The more you can accomplish now, the better you will feel about your future. Use your energy wisely. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): You can accomplish anything you set your mind to as long as you don't let someone tie up your time with responsibilities that aren't yours. Make plans to spend a romantic evening with someone special or, if single, to get out, enjoy socializing and meet new people. ✪✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Wait, watch and listen to what everyone else is up to and make choices that will allow you to get the most done. A job you've been requested to do will be easier and more appealing if you use your creative imagination to complete the task. ✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Take pride in the way you look and how you present yourself to others. Love is in the stars and a romantic engagement should be your destination. Push for what you want and show how serious you are by taking action. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Changes at home will be beyond your control. You'll have to go with the flow and try to keep things as peaceful and balanced as possible. Your effort will not go unnoticed and will help the outcome in the end. Don't make idle promises. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Don't let someone else's depression or negativity cause you to miss out on something fantastic. Get involved, take part and enjoy what life has to offer. Love and romance are highlighted. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Don't get sucked into someone else's dream or goal. Invest in your own interests. Loss is likely if you are too impulsive. Think before you take any action that involves money. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): You can connect with people who will show interest in your creative idea. Romance will play a role in your financial position, helping to ease stress and allowing you greater freedom to pursue your dreams, hopes and wishes. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are patient, practical and persistent. You are a leader with a thirst for truth and knowledge. You will stand alone or beside those sharing your beliefs.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

			3		8			7
4								
		3	5					8
	7		8			4		
		1				8		
		9			5		3	
2					4	9		
								2
8			6		1			

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 9/17

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

7	3	9	5	1	2	8	4	6
2	8	5	3	4	6	7	9	1
6	1	4	8	7	9	5	2	3
9	2	8	7	6	3	1	5	4
4	7	3	1	8	5	2	6	9
1	5	6	2	9	4	3	7	8
3	9	7	6	2	8	4	1	5
5	4	2	9	3	1	6	8	7
8	6	1	4	5	7	9	3	2

Difficulty Level ★★★ 9/16

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

BEYONCE **Solution: 9 letters**

G	G	S	A	H	S	A	S	E	C	R	E	I	F	I
A	N	I	T	E	T	E	T	Z	L	V	E	A	R	L
M	I	I	Y	A	L	P	Y	P	I	E	S	R	A	E
A	C	B	H	R	G	A	L	D	G	H	E	I	G	D
M	N	I	O	T	J	E	E	N	I	P	T	I	R	O
A	A	L	U	O	O	O	A	O	L	N	S	E	A	M
G	D	L	S	U	S	L	N	A	E	E	V	L	N	U
U	E	B	T	R	O	E	C	U	L	E	B	O	C	S
S	S	O	O	S	A	E	L	L	F	U	I	W	E	I
R	T	A	N	V	A	F	E	W	M	T	E	X	Ⓢ	C
E	I	R	I	B	N	H	A	L	O	H	Y	Ⓞ	R	E
W	N	D	L	I	H	C	H	M	T	N	Ⓛ	I	U	N
O	Y	E	V	O	L	O	E	A	N	Ⓞ	K	D	O	I
P	E	R	E	B	M	E	M	D	L	O	G	A	Y	H
N	O	E	R	E	D	R	E	A	M	G	I	R	L	S

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Album, Billboard, Child, Clothing, Dancing, Dereon, Destiny, Diva, Dreamgirls, Emotion, Fashion, Fever, Fierce, Fragrances, Giselle, Goldmember, Halo, Heart, Houston, Influential, Irreplaceable, Jay-Z, Knowles, Love, Mathew, Model, Music, Play, Powers, Radio, Sasha, Sexy, Shine, Solange, Solo, Stage, Style, Suga Mama, Tina, Tours, Videos, Yours

Yesterday's Answer: San Gennaro

SALE: The topics of Wonderword for Kids' appeal to younger fans but the puzzle-difficulty matches what you've come to expect from Wonderword. For a limited time, the book is on sale for just $4 each (U.S. funds only), payable to Universal Uclick. Include $3 postage for the first book order, $1 p&h for each additional book. Send to Wonderword, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480.

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INVITATION TO BID
ITB10-GOV-157

Puerto Rico Dump Final Closure, Saipan MP

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, are soliciting sealed bids for the Puerto Rico Dump Final Closure, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

The project package will be available Friday, August 27, 2010 at Pacific Quick Print & Post, Chalan Pale Arnold, Saipan, MP. A non-refundable payment to Pacific Quick Print & Post, amount to be determined is required for a set of the project package. All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill. At the time of award, prospective bidder must obtain a U.S. Treasury Bond before a contract is executed.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001. Public Law 15-95 Local Preference Act, as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

There will be a Mandatory Pre-bid Conference/Site Visit for this project Thursday, September 09, 2010, 9:00 a.m., Saipan local time, at the project site, Industrial Drive, Puerto Rico, Saipan, MP. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. Saipan local time September 13, 2010 to Mr. James R. Stump, CIP Contracting Officer, Office of the Capitol Improvement, 1st Floor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or fax (670) 664-2408.

Sealed bids must be marked **"ITB10-GOV-157".** For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time, October 04, 2010. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time October 04, 2010, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than October 04, 2010 and must be received close of business, October 14, 2010 (Saipan Local Time). Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time, October 15, 2010. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will opened at 11:00 a.m. Saipan local time, October 04, 2010.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price. The surety company providing the Performance and Payment bonds must be U.S. Treasury Listed and possess unencumbered assets equal to the penal amount of each bond. Performance time for completion of this project is three hundred sixty five **(365)** calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be greater of (i) five hundred dollars **($500.00.)**, or (ii) two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by three hundred sixty five **(365)** calendar days, the contract time and will be assessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ Eloy S. Inos, Lieutenant Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Procurement and Supply, DOF

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ADDENDUM NO. 1
08-26-10
ITB10-GOV-157
Puerto Rico Dump Final Closure, Saipan, MP

The previously advertised notice, Invitation To Bids ("ITB") for the **"Puerto Rico Dump Final Closure, Saipan, MP Project"** has been amended. The specific amendment is to extend when the project package will be available, mandatory pre-bid/site visit, when bids are due and when bids will open.

Amendment shall read:

*The project package will be available **Friday, October 01, 2010** at Pacific Quick Print & Post, Chalan Pale Arnold, Saipan, MP. There will be a Mandatory Pre-bid Conference/Site Visit for this project **Thursday, October 14, 2010**, 9:00 a.m., Saipan local time, at the project site, Industrial Drive, Puerto Rico, Saipan, MP. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. Saipan local time **October 20, 2010** to Mr. James R. Stump, CIP Contracting Officer, Office of the Capitol Improvement, 1st Floor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or fax (670) 664-2408. Bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time, **November 08, 2010**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time **November 08, 2010**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **November 08, 2010** and must be received close of business, **November 18, 2010** (Saipan Local Time). Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid. Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time, **November 19, 2010**. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will opened at 11:00 a.m. Saipan local time, **November 08, 2010.***

All other elements of the ITB remain as originally provided. For further information on this project, please contact the Office of Capital Improvement, Capitol Hill, Saipan, during working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. – Monday through Friday, except holidays)

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INVITATION TO BID
ITB10-GOV-164

Tinian Health Center
Supply and Installation of Medical and Dental Equipment

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, are soliciting sealed bids for the Municipality of Tinian, TinianHealth Center, Supply and Installation of Medical and Dental Equipment, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

The project package will be available Tuesday, September 21, 2010 at the Governor's CIP Administrator's Office, Juan A Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill. A $25.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001. Public Law 15-95 Local Preference Act, as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on October 8, 2010 to Mr. Stanley Good, Project Manager or Ms. Nerissa Benavente, Project Coordinator, Capital Improvement Office, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 664-2408.

Sealed bids must be marked **"ITB10-GOV-164".** For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time, October 15, 2010. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time October 15, 2010, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than October 15, 2010 and must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. October 22, 2010. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time October 25, 2010. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will opened at 11:00 a.m. Saipan local time, on October 15, 2010.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00) a bid bond of fifteen percent (15 %) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be a Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". Surety companies must hold a certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the CNMI Attorney General.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price. The surety company providing the Performance and Payment bonds must possess a certificate of authority to conduct business in the CNMI and certification that the value or its unencumbered assets (exclusive or all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the amount or each bond. Performance time for completion of this project is two hundred twenty **(220)** calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be greater of (i) one hundred dollars **($100.00)**, or (ii) two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by two hundred twenty (220) calendar days, the contract time and will be assessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ ELOY S. INOS, Lieutenant Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Procurement and Supply, DOF

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INVITATION TO BID
ITB10-GOV-167
PSS Fire Alarm/School Bell System - Various Schools

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, are soliciting sealed bids for the **Public School System (PSS) Fire Alarm/School Bell System – Various Schools** Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

The project package will be available Tuesday, September 21, 2010 at the Governor's CIP Administrator's Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill. A $25.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001. Public Law 15-95 Local Preference Act, as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

There will be a Pre-bid Conference/Site Visit for this project on Thursday, September 30, 2010, 9:00AM beginning at the Saipan Southern High School, Koblerville, Saipan. Bidders are encouraged to visit the sites to familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting their bid. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on October 07, 2010 to Mr. Carl Castro, Project Coordinator, Capital Improvement Program, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 664-2408.

Sealed bids must be marked **"ITB10-GOV-167"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time, October 18, 2010. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time October 18, 2010, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than October 18, 2010 and must be received no later than October 27, 2010. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time, October 28, 2010. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will opened at 11:00 a.m. Saipan local time, on October 18, 2010.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00) a bid bond of fifteen percent (15 %) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be a Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". Surety companies must hold a certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the CNMI Attorney General.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price. The surety company providing the Performance and Payment bonds must posses a certificate of authority to conduct business in the CNMI and certification that the value or its unencumbered assets (exclusive or all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the amount or each bond. Performance time for completion of this project is one hundred twenty **(120)** calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be greater of (i) two hundred dollars **($200.00)**, or (ii) two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by one hundred twenty (120) calendar days, the contract time and will be assessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ ELOY S. INOS, Lieutenant Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Procurement and Supply, DOF

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Pro se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In Re The Matter Of The Petition To Appoint General Guardianship For:	)	FCD GU CIVIL ACTION NO. 10-0437
D.T.T. & T.T.N. Minor Children	)	**NOTICE OF HEARING**
By: Tanya Ann Sanchez and Anarita Sanchez Joseph Petitioners	)	

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on October 04, 2010, at 1:30pm in Courtroom 205A, before Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 17th day of August, 2010.

Bernadita Sablan
Clerk of Court

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

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Jets' Revis, Patriots' Moss ready for next meeting

FLORHAM PARK, N.J. (AP)—Revis Island is ready for a visit from the "Slouch."

As if Jets-Patriots needed any extra juice, New York cornerback Darrelle Revis and New England receiver Randy Moss are ready to take their rivalry to the field again.

"It ought to be a great one," Jets coach Rex Ryan said Wednesday.

That's because the two stars have taken playful shots at each other during the last several months.

To review: Revis was playing a word-association game on the NFL Network in January when he was asked about Terrell Owens.

"Slouch," Revis responded.

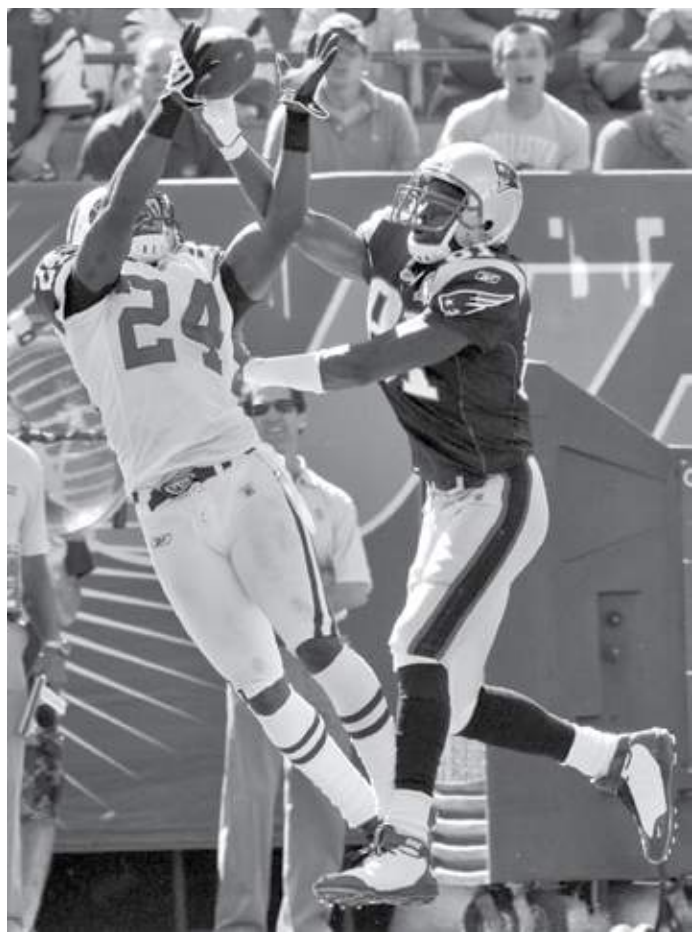
Deion Sanders, conducting the interview, then said: "Randy Moss."

Revis responded: "Probably say slouch, too."

Well, Moss playfully fired back during an interview with ESPN on Tuesday, saying, "We're coming to the Meadowlands on Sunday, man, so you got 60 minutes of this 'slouch.' I don't really get into the trash talking, but if what he called me was a 'slouch,' then I guess the 'slouch' will be there to see you on Sunday."

Revis was amused when told of Moss' comments.

"He probably said it with a laugh, but it's been in his mind for the whole offseason and he's been working hard for this day to come," Revis said. "I'm expecting him to play his A-plus game. I don't expect anything less when I do play against Randy."



AP

In this Sept. 20, 2009, file photo, New York Jets cornerback Darrelle Revis (24) intercepts the ball as New England Patriots wide receiver Randy Moss (81) attempts to catch a pass from quarterback Tom Brady during the first quarter of an NFL football game in East Rutherford, N.J. Revis is ready for Moss.

Patriots quarterback Tom Brady pays no attention to any of the trash talk.

"We're all called a lot of names by a lot of people," Brady said. "It's hard for me to think that you get so worked up over that. Revis is a good player, but we play a lot of good players, too. The Jets have a lot of good players. We don't prepare for one player. We prepare for the whole defense."

The back-and-forth between Revis and Moss started last season when the New England star was held to four catches for 24 yards in the Jets' 16-9 win. Moss refused to give Revis total credit, saying he had help in the coverage, and that ticked off the cornerback.

"When I played him the first game last year, I called him a slouch for a reason," Revis said. "Because that game, I felt like he played like a slouch. That's the simple point. But, I still have respect for him and I know he's one of the best there is."

When reminded that he called Moss a "slouch" a few months later, Revis shrugged.

"If I said it in January or whenever I said it, you guys know I said it," he said. "Like I said, that's how I felt at that particular time."

In their second meeting, Moss had five catches for 34 yards, including a 4-yard touchdown receptions, as New England cruised to a 31-14 win.

"They tried to come after me in the second game and he was more prepared for me in the second game, too," Revis said. "But they tried to get me on some trick plays."

But, was Moss a slouch in that one, too?

"No," Revis said, smiling, "he wasn't a slouch in the second game."

Revis said neither player talks much trash on the field, but he fully expects Moss to have revenge on his mind when the teams play Sunday.

"I look forward to the matchup," Moss said. "I have a lot of respect for Darrelle Revis. He's a young player who definitely matured faster than most young players do. I'll get the best from him. He'll get the best from me. The only thing I can say is, collectively as a team, hopefully we get the best of the Jets."

Ryan is just glad he'll have Revis, who held out of training camp in a contract dispute, on the field against Moss.

"There's only one corner in the league that would dare to go against Randy Moss one-on-one, and that's Darrelle," Ryan said. "That's the only one that should try to compete."

Panthers QB Matt Moore practices after concussion

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)—Just three days after getting knocked out of Carolina's season opening loss with a concussion, Panthers quarterback Matt Moore practiced and expressed confidence he'll play Sunday against Tampa Bay.

If Moore passes additional cognitive tests and is cleared by doctors later this week, coach John Fox will give Moore a chance to atone for a poor season debut and delay rookie Jimmy Clausen's first NFL start.

"I felt good today," said Moore, who was listed as being limited in Carolina's workout Wednesday. "We'll wait and see what the doctors say or whatever, but I felt really good."

It was a big improvement from Sunday, when Moore acknowledged it took a second jarring hit to realize he had suffered a concussion on the previous drive when his head banged against the turf. Moore, who threw three end zone interceptions and lost a fumble, was helped off the field after Osi Umenyiora sacked him late in the fourth quarter of the New York Giants' 31-18 win.

"I think the hit from behind really triggered something or made me realize something is not right," Moore said.

Then came the nausea followed by an ambulance trip to the hospital for evaluation. But when asked if it would be accurate to describe it as a "mild" concussion, Moore replied that it was "nothing crazy."

Just being allowed on the field proved Moore—and reserve receiver Charly Martin, who also returned to practice after a concussion Sunday—showed progress.

Under the NFL's new, stricter rules regarding concussions, Moore had to pass a series of tests before he could practice. Philadelphia quarterback Kevin Kolb, who also sustained a concussion Sunday, didn't pass those tests and wasn't allowed to practice on Wednesday.

"Concussions are not created equal," said Dr. Thom Mayer, medical director for the NFL Players Association. "A player has to have a normal neurological exam at rest and after exercise. He has to have normal neuropsychological testing. He has to be cleared by both the team's physician and the independent neurological consultant. Only after all those things can the player go back and play."

Mayer added he expects the Panthers to "monitor him very carefully" and do neuropsychological testing again later this week. If Moore has any setbacks, Clausen would take over. He threw two incomplete passes in relief of Moore in his NFL debut Sunday.

"I think I'm ready to go if my name gets called," Clausen said. "And I have to be ready to go, no questions asked."

NFL *reminds clubs of media policy*

NEW YORK (AP)—The NFL sent a memo Tuesday reminding all 32 teams of its equal access and conduct policy toward the media following a TV Azteca reporter's comments that the Jets made her uncomfortable in their locker room last weekend.

"Women are a common part of the sports media," the memo said, and included the policy. "By law, women must be granted the same rights to perform their jobs as men. Please remember that women reporters are professionals and should be treated as such. "

NFL spokesman Greg Aiello also sent an email to the Association of Women in Sports Media restating league policy.

Reporter Ines Sainz, who works for the Mexican network, said she was uncomfortable Saturday in the Jets' locker room, where a few players made catcalls as she waited with two male co-workers to interview quarterback Mark Sanchez, who is of Mexican descent. An assistant coach also seemed to deliberately throw footballs to players near where Sainz was standing on the sideline during practice.

The NFL also reacted Tuesday when Clinton Portis, the outspoken running back for the Washington Redskins, said in his weekly appearance on a radio: "I think you put women reporters in the locker room in position to see guys walking around naked, and you sit in the locker room with 53 guys, and all of the sudden you see a nice woman in the locker room. I think men are going to tend to turn and look and want to say something to that woman."

Aiello said the comments were "clearly inappropriate, offensive, and have no place in the NFL."

Then the Redskins issued a statement by Portis, who said he was "wrong to make the comments" and that he respects the job reporters do.

The Redskins said they "will take the necessary steps" to remind players about acting in a professional manner.

"I didn't address it with the team, but I did talk to Clinton," Redskins coach Mike Shanahan said Wednesday. "I think everybody read Clinton's apology, and my conversation with him is private, but I think he said what he needed to say."

League policy further states that women reporters are "assigned to cover NFL teams for the same reasons as their male counterparts - because they are professional reporters with an interest in sports. When female reporters are in your locker room, they are there in a professional capacity."

AWSM said it was in contact with the NFL about Portis' remarks and appreciated the league's swift response.

Jets coach Rex Ryan said league representatives spoke to specific players on Tuesday as part of its investigation into what happened. He also volunteered to talk to the NFL.

Heisman Trust: No 2005 winner

NEW YORK (AP)—And the Heisman Trophy winner for 2005 is—no one.

Rather than replace Reggie Bush, who returned his trophy after a scandal erupted, the officials who administer the award decided it would remain vacant for that year.

There was some initial talk that the trophy might go to former Texas quarterback Vince Young, who finished a distant second to Bush in the voting.

However, Heisman Trust President William Dockery told The Associated Press in a telephone interview Wednesday that the eight trustees never decided to take the trophy away from Bush nor did they receive any advance notice of Bush's decision.

"We're certainly not upset Reggie resolved the issue," he said.

The Heisman board held its regular monthly meeting Tuesday, but Dockery said there were no plans to make a final decision about Bush and the 2005 Heisman at that time.

Turns out they didn't have to.

Before the meeting started, Bush announced he would make the unprecedented move of forfeiting the Heisman he won while starring at running back for Southern California. In June, after a four-year investigation, the NCAA ruled Bush was ineligible for the 2005 season for receiving improper benefits.

Players are required to be in good standing with the NCAA to be eligible for college football's highest honor.

Even before Dockery said there would be no winner or revote for 2005, Young said he didn't want the Heisman anyway.

"I would not want to have it, and don't want the trophy. Like I said, 2005, Reggie Bush is the Heisman Trophy winner. Why would I want it?" he told reporters after Tennessee Titans practice in Nashville.

Dockery said Bush, now with the New Orleans Saints, met with some of the trustees in New York several weeks ago.

"Reggie requested a meeting," Dockery said.

He didn't disclose what was discussed, but did say Bush was given no indication the trust might strip him of the award because a decision had not been made.

"There wasn't heavy discussion about it," Dockery said. "We were waiting for the NCAA decision and potential appeals. There was no lean from the members as far as I can tell."

USC was hit with heavy sanctions by the NCAA this summer after it determined Bush and his family had received hundreds of thousands of dollars in gifts from two fledgling California-based marketing agents.

The allegations were first reported by Yahoo! Sports in September 2006, months after Bush had already been drafted No. 2 overall by the Saints.

The NCAA and Pac-10 began investigating him and the USC football program soon afterward; Bush denied any wrongdoing.

In the statement he released through the Saints on Tuesday, Bush mentions "mistakes that I made" with no elaboration.

Still, Dockery is happy to put the matter to rest.

"Enough is enough," he said. "Reggie admitted he made a mistake. He's acted on it by giving up the award."

Rays back on top of Yankees after 4-3 win

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP)—Dan Johnson hit a pair of two-run homers Wednesday night, leading the Tampa Bay Rays to a 4-3 victory over the New York Yankees and back into first place in the AL East.

The teams with the baseball's top two records flip-flopped positions in the standings for the third straight night. The first two games of the important series went extra innings, with the Rays winning 1-0 on Monday and the Yankees regaining the division lead by a half-game with an 8-7 win on Tuesday.

The finale was filled with plenty of drama, too, even though the Yankees and Rays are far from finished. They'll play four more games in New York next week, with Tampa Bay holding an 8-6 edge in the season series.

Both of Johnson's homers came off Phil Hughes (16-8), who retired two of Tampa Bay's most dangerous hitters—Carl Crawford and Evan Longoria—before giving up a two-out single to Matt Joyce and Johnson's second homer of the night in the seventh.

The Yankees had taken a 3-2 in the top of the seventh on Curtis Granderson's two-run homer off Chad Qualls (1-0).

Randy Choate and Grant Balfour worked a scoreless eighth for the Rays. Rafael Soriano pitched the ninth, earning his franchise record-tying 43rd save in 46 opportunities by striking out Alex Rodriguez on three pitches with the potential tying run on base.

Rays starter James Shields scattered eight hits over 6 1-3 innings, walked two and struck out eight before departing with a 2-1 lead Johnson gave Tampa Bay with his two-run homer off Hughes in the fifth. Johnson has five homers since being called up last month from Triple-A Durham, where he was the International League MVP with 30 homers and 95 RBIs.

The Yankees went back on the top in seventh after plate umpire Lance Barksdale—over the objections of the Rays—ruled that Qualls' first pitch struck Derek Jeter on the left arm and Granderson followed with his 18th homer.

Tampa Bay manager Joe Maddon argued unsuccessfully that the ball hit Jeter's bat, eventually drawing an ejection from Barksdale.

Although it will take a major collapse for either team to not make the playoffs, the Yankees and Rays value the division title because of the homefield advantage that comes with it in the postseason.

Shields has struggled against the Yankees much of his career, going 1-7 with a 6.00 ERA in nine starts against them before this season. He's been much more effective this year, going 2-0 and outpitching CC Sabathia in a 3-0 victory at Tropicana Field on Aug. 1.

The Yankees had at least one hit in five of the first sixth innings, but were 2 for 7 with runners in scoring position against Shields - with both of the hits coming in the first, when Mark Teixiera's infield single sent Jeter to third and Robinson Cano's single to left scored the Yankees captain.

Hughes, who retired 12 in a row to start the game, allowed four runs and six hits over 6 2-3 innings. He walked none and struck out five.

AP

Tampa Bay Rays' Dan Johnson follows the flight of his fifth-inning, two-run home run off New York Yankees starting pitcher Phil Hughes during a baseball game Wednesday, Sept. 15, 2010, in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Twins 9, White Sox 3

In Chicago, Minnesota took a commanding eight-game lead in the AL Central with a victory over Chicago.

With 17 games left for both teams, Minnesota has all but secured the division, having won 10 of its past 11 games and boasting baseball's best record in the second half of the season.

Twins catcher Joe Mauer had three hits, including a three-run homer.

Minnesota starter Brian Duensing (9-2) pitched six innings, allowing two runs. Since being promoted to the rotation in late July, he is 6-1 as a starter.

Rangers 11, Tigers 7

In Arlington, Texas, the hosts extended their winning streak to seven games by beating Detroit.

In what might have been their last home game before clinching the division title, the Rangers built an 8-2 lead in the fourth on David Murphy's three-run homer. The blast into the second deck in right ended the night prematurely for Tigers starter Armando Galarraga (4-6), who had already allowed Vladimir Guerrero's homer to start the second.

Ian Kinsler also went long for Texas, while starter Colby Lewis (11-12) went six innings for the win.

Red Sox 5, Mariners 1

In Seattle, Boston completed a three-game sweep of Seattle.

Red Sox starter Clay Buchholz (16-7) allowed one run—a first-inning homer—in his first victory in more than three weeks. He lowered his ERA to 2.48, second in the AL.

Victor Martinez hit a two-run double for Boston, which has quietly crept within six games of the wild card after it had appeared its season was over.

The Mariners have lost seven straight.

Royals 6, Athletics 3

In Kansas City, Wilson Betemit hit his first career grand slam as Kansas City beat Oakland.

Betemit worked a full count from Trevor Cahill and fouled off the next three pitches before homering just inside the right-field pole. That snapped Cahill's 15-inning scoreless streak.

Royals starter Bruce Chen (10-7), who was 1-13 from 2007-09, went five innings, allowing three runs.

Orioles 3, Blue Jays 1

In Baltimore, Brad Bergesen gave up only one run in his third career complete game, steering Baltimore past Toronto.

Bergesen (7-10), who did not issue a walk, came in with a 6.99 ERA in five career starts against the Blue Jays, but dominated this one after yielding a solo homer in the first inning. That homer came from Jose Bautista, who has a majors-leading 47 for the season.

Bergesen was aided by two double plays, and the Orioles threw out a runner at the plate.

Baltimore swept the three-game series.

Angels 7, Indians 0

In Cleveland, Jered Weaver, staked to a seven-run lead after two innings, earned his first win in more than a month as Los Angeles beat Cleveland.

Weaver (12-11) retired 21 of the 22 batters he faced over seven innings to snap the longest losing streak of his career at four games.

He struck out seven to take over the AL lead with 218. He retired the first 11 men he faced until a single in the fourth.

Diamondbacks 3, Reds 1

In Cincinnati, rookie Daniel Hudson shut down the National League's top offense for eight innings, and Tony Abreu had a pair of hits and scored a run in Arizona's minimalist offense, leading the Diamondbacks to a victory over the Cincinnati Reds.

Arizona beat the NL Central leaders for the first time in five games this season.

Hudson (7-2) gave up four hits and fanned eight before leaving with a 3-0 lead. He also had a run-scoring single off left-hander Travis Wood (5-3), who continued his fade. Wood lasted only five innings, giving up nine hits—eight of them singles.

A night after they drew a season-low 12,061 fans, the Reds sold 16,973 tickets for one of their pet promotion games—fans were allowed to bring dogs.

Mets 9, Pirates 1

At New York, Knuckleballer R.A. Dickey allowed just three hits into the ninth inning as Carlos Beltran and the Mets feasted on Zach Duke and the Pirates.

Dickey's tricky pitch was no match for the inexperienced Pittsburgh Pirates. He didn't allow an extra-base hit until pinch-hitter Pedro Ciriaco tripled to lead off the ninth. John Bowker's grounder to shortstop ended the shutout bid. The 35-year-old Dickey (11-6) finished the five-hitter for the third complete game of his career.

The Pirates lost their 57th road game and must win three of their final nine away games to avoid matching the 1963 Mets for the worst road record (17-64) in a 162-game season.

Nationals 6, Braves 0

At Atlanta, Livan Hernandez homered allowed just five hits in eight innings as Washington beat Atlanta to end a six-game losing streak.

Hernandez (10-11) walked two, struck out six and hit a batter. Only one runner reached second.

The 35-year-old right-hander varied his pitches from a curve ball in the second inning to Derrek Lee to nothing faster than an 85 mph (137 kph) fastball. He threw 118 pitches, 75 strikes.

Adam Dunn hit his 35th home run, a mammoth 455-foot shot over the center field fence after Ryan Zimmerman singled in the second and Hernandez added a run-scoring double in the inning off Jair Jurrjens (7-6).

Padres 7, Rockies 6

At Denver, Jon Garland threw seven sharp innings and pinch-hitter Matt Stairs hit a two-run homer in the eighth as San Diego hung on to beat Colorado and maintain their slim lead in the NL West.

The Padres came into the game with a half-game lead over the Giants, who played Los Angeles later in the night.

The Rockies, who had their 10-game winning streak halted the night before, tumbled again, dropping them 3 1/2 games behind San Diego. They remain 3 1/2 games behind Atlanta in the NL wild-card race.

Cubs 7, Cardinals 2

At St. Louis, Randy Wells allowed five hits over eight innings and had two hits and two RBIs to help Chicago deny Adam Wainwright's bid for a 19th win in a victory over the slumping St. Louis.

Xavier Nady had three hits and three RBIs and Darwin Barney had three hits and an RBI in a 15-hit attack for the Cubs, who have outscored St. Louis 12-3 while taking the first two games of a three-game series. The Cardinals remained seven games behind NL Central-leading Cincinnati with 19 games to go.

The Cardinals managed six hits, including an RBI double by Matt Holliday in the fourth and Colby Rasmus' 22nd homer in the ninth off Sean Marshall, without the three-time NL most valuable player.

Dodgers 1, Giants 0

At San Francisco, Barry Zito's winless streak reached a career-worst 12 outings as San Francisco lost to Los Angeles.

The Giants, coming off a 7-3 road trip in which they took three of four at San Diego, dropped 1 1/2 games behind first-place San Diego in the NL West. San Diego held off Colorado 7-6 at Coors Field. The Rockies are 3 1/2 games behind San Diego and two behind San Francisco in the division standings. The Giants remained 1 1/2 games behind Atlanta in the NL wild card race.

Clayton Kershaw (12-10) pitched a four-hitter for his first career complete game and shutout.

Zito (8-13) lost his career-high seventh straight game.

Phillies 2, Marlins 1

At Miami, Cole Hamels had a season-high 13 strikeouts in 6 2-3 innings as Philadelphia increased its lead in the NL East to two games by beating Florida.

Hamels (11-10) threw a career-high 127 pitches and allowed only one run. The left-hander won his fourth consecutive start and won for the first time in seven career starts in Miami.

Philadelphia increased its cushion in the division when second-place Atlanta lost to Washington 6-0.

Shane Victorino scored both runs for the Phillies, who totaled only five hits and won despite going 0 for 11 with runners in scoring position.

Astros 3, Brewers 2

At Houston, rookie Chris Johnson hit a three-run homer in the first inning as Houston beat Milwaukee.

Houston has won three in a row and 11 of its last 15 games.

Astros starter Bud Norris (8-8) allowed one run and three hits in a 7 1-3 innings. He struck out seven and won for the sixth time in seven decisions.

Closer Brandon Lyon gave up a solo homer to Casey McGehee in the ninth inning to make it 3-2 before retiring the next three batters for his 16th save.

Johnson's two-out shot off Chris Capuano (3-4) bounced off the train that sits atop the wall in left-center field.

Heat taking first camp with LeBron on the road

MIAMI (AP)—LeBron James will take his talents to a different beach when the Miami Heat open camp.

He'll get to South Beach eventually. But first—Fort Walton Beach.

The Miami Heat announced Wednesday night that they'll hold their first camp with James, Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh at Hurlburt Field and Eglin Air Force Base in Florida's Panhandle from Sept. 28 to Oct. 3. Miami has typically held training camp at its home arena, but in an effort to limit distractions going into this much-hyped season, the Heat wanted a different locale.

Heat coach Erik Spoelstra wanted the camp there after getting presented with the idea by team trainer Jay Sabol. Once military officials agreed, the deal was struck.

"This is a terrific opportunity for our team," Spoelstra said. "The base will provide the ideal setting for us to focus on basketball and building camaraderie with limited distractions. It also presents us a unique and fantastic opportunity to spend time with the Airmen who defend our freedom. I anticipate our team and each of us individually will benefit tremendously from being around this environment."

Eglin officials said Wednesday night they could not recall another professional sports team holding part of its training camp at the base, which is about 650 miles away from Miami. Practices will take place at Hurlburt Field's Aderholt Gymnasium. The Heat said they would be involved in several other on-base events.

"We at Hurlburt Field have a proud tradition of excellence, sacrifice and commitment. Our world-class Airmen and facilities guarantee we can answer the call—any time, any place," said Col. Michael Plehn, 1st Special Operations Wing commander. "We know the Miami Heat share this same commitment to excellence. This is why we're pleased to support their request to use our facilities."

James famously said he would "take my talents to South Beach" when announcing his decision to join the Heat on July 8, and there will be plenty of time for that to happen. The Heat will return to South Florida two days before opening the preseason at home against Detroit on Oct. 5.

"The Miami Heat is extremely humbled to train in an environment where service, sacrifice and discipline are the norm," Heat president Pat Riley said. "We know our players will appreciate being immersed in that kind of environment, and supporting the men and women who defend our freedom everyday."

The Heat have many ties to military efforts, including their "HomeStrong" initiative where soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan are honored before every home game. Riley also has arranged Christmas parties for soldiers and their families in recent years, and former Heat first-round draft pick Tim James joined the U.S. Army in 2008 and was sent to Iraq shortly thereafter.

The Heat plan to practice twice daily during camp, although that's subject to change.

Nets GM Billy King holding predictions for now

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP)—Billy King isn't ready to make any bold predications about the New Jersey Nets this season.

The Nets new general manager says he wants to watch the team practice under new coach Avery Johnson before venturing a guess on the 2010-11 season.

King knows one thing though. The team that posted the worst record in the NBA last season (12-70) is going to be better than a year ago with the continued development of Devin Harris, Brook Lopez and Terrence Williams, the addition of rookie Derrick Favors, the free agent signings of Jordan Farmar, Travis Outlaw and Anthony Morrow and the trade that brought Troy Murphy back to his home state.

■ ■ ■ ■

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP)—The New Jersey Nets signed free agent forward Stephen Graham to a two-year contract on Wednesday.

General manager Billy King did not release terms of the contract, but a person with knowledge of the deal said Graham received a partially guaranteed contract for this season with a team option for next year. The person did not want to be identified because he was not authorized to speak for the team.

King also announced the hiring of Doug Overton as a player development coach and Robby Hoenshel as an assistant athletic trainer and director of sports rehabilitation.

■ ■ ■ ■

"We have competition at almost every position," King said Tuesday at the team's annual breakfast with beat writers. "When you get that, you get guys fighting for minutes. A lot of guys think it's their chance to start. If a guy knows somebody behind him pushing him then they're not going to take a day off of practice because if they do that guy may pass him up and the minutes are gone."

The Nets had very little competition after trading away their star players and it showed on the court. New Jersey opened with a league-record 18 straight losses, fired coach Lawrence Frank and then spent the rest of the season keeping everyone wondering whether they would break the league record for fewest wins (nine) in a season set by the Philadelphia 76ers in 1972-73.

A relaxed King spent the nearly three-hour breakfast discussing politics—he thought of running for the U.S. Senate about six or seven years ago—baseball, football and his days at Duke. He also showed he was still a New Jersey novice. He was almost clueless about the Garden State Parkway and Taylor Ham, a state food staple.

However, he knows the Nets and he believes a key this season will be if Harris plays at the point like he did two seasons ago, when he was chosen an All-Star.

Working with Johnson should help and having a better cast around him also should improve his game.

King says Harris has bounced back before.

"If a guy hasn't done it, then you're hoping he can get to that point," said King, who took over for Rod Thorn, who resigned and then took a similar job with the 76ers. "It goes back to muscle memory. Avery knows how to push the buttons; he's coached him. That's why I'm confident he can do it, because Avery knows what he can do."

King said Harris needs to get back to being a scoring point guard instead of being a setup guy.

On other issues, King said Lopez has just about recovered from an offseason bout with mononucleosis.

Favors, the Georgia Tech power forward who was the third pick overall in the draft, has made significant progress since the summer league.

"He's hitting the jump shot, dunking on people, finishing," King said. "I think the summer and all the work is starting to pay off and starting to click with him. I think the fact that you're bringing in Troy made him realize there's another guy. Competition makes guys focus more."

King said having Murphy and the recently signed Joe Smith around to mentor him will help.

Floyd Mayweather Jr. jailed in Vegas domestic case

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Boxer Floyd Mayweather Jr. was jailed briefly Friday on a felony charge after his ex-girlfriend alleged he beat her and stole her cell phone during an argument in front of their three children. Mayweather, 33, said nothing as he was released from the Clark County jail on $3,000 bail after being booked on a grand larceny charge. He could face up to five years in state prison if he is convicted of taking items valued at less than $2,500.He is scheduled for an initial appearance Nov. 9 in Las Vegas Justice Court.

Mayweather's lawyer, Richard Wright, denied Mayweather was guilty of the criminal charges based on allegations by Josie Harris.

"He did not commit any grand larceny," Wright told The Associated Press. "Josie can't find her iPhone. We're attempting to find it or replace it. We'll cooperate in the investigation. We expect to get the matter resolved." An iPhone typically costs less than $500.

In a request for a Clark Court Family Court protection order, Harris said Mayweather threatened to kill her in a confrontation about 5 a.m. Thursday at a home she says is listed in his name in southwest Las Vegas.

She said he was angry about her a relationship with another man.

The document says Harris and Mayweather lived together for seven years and separated in May after 15 "on and off" years.

It says Harris sought another protection order five years ago and alleges that Mayweather battered another former girlfriend. The document does not mention an iPhone.

Harris also filed a police complaint Thursday. It has not been made public.

BASEBALL BRIEFS

CNMI National Baseball meeting tomorrow

A mandatory meeting for the CNMI National Baseball Team will be held tomorrow, Sept. 18, 4pm at the Gilbert C. Ada Gym conference room.

The decision on whether or not the team will participate in next year's 2011 Pacific Games will be discussed at this meeting. All players and team representatives are expected to attend. For more information, contact Tony Rogolifoi at 288-3515.

Youth clinic continues Saturday

For all local baseball enthusiasts, there will be a Saturday Youth Baseball Clinic this Saturday for players ages 13 to 18 from 9am until noon at Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Baseball Field. In addition, another Saturday clinic will be held next Saturday, Sept. 25, and depending on the turnout, more clinics will be held in the future accordingly.

All Saipan Little League Baseball Association managers and coaches are invited to attend the clinics where Syl Ada and Mark Flores are expected to be on hand along with Saipan Major League president and NMASA Hall of Famer Tony Rogolifoi to administer the exact same drills that the boys who attended the Baseball Confederation of Oceania Regional Training Center underwent in Guam this past July.

Players are expected to show up in full baseball attire with all of their equipment. This means to show up on time with your hats, cleats, gloves, bats, water bottles, baseball pants, athletic cups, and/or batting gloves.

SLLB general membership meeting on Oct. 2

Saipan Little League Baseball Association will be holding its annual general membership meeting on Oct. 2, at the Minatchom Atdao pavilion across Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ball Field.

The agenda will include the president's report, financial, report and the election of a new board of directors for the upcoming 2011 Saipan Little League baseball season. The meeting will start promptly at 9am and all teams and other interested individuals/volunteers are asked to be on time.

For more information contact Tony I. Rogolifoi at 288-3515. ***(Walter Sutherland)***

NATIONALS

From Page 36

in the end. The Nationals had a twice-to-beat advantage in the title duel because of their undefeated record in the playoffs.

IT&E, which advanced to the finals after escaping with close wins against Becks Sizsevenoh and Bacardi Mojito Hi-5 in the playoffs, smelled blood, again when it sliced the Nationals' lead to a deuce, 68-70, 53.8 ticks to go in the fourth quarter.

Nationals coach Rufino Aguon sued for time and made a crucial substitution, pulling out Quincy Johnson in favor of the veteran Jose Tumaquip.

The move did wonders for the Nationals, as Tumaquip delivered the heads-up plays in the homestretch, foiling IT&E's bid for another comeback win.

First, Tumaquip connected on a bank shot off a Dan Barcinas feed from the baseline, increasing the Nationals' lead to four, 72-68.

Second, Tumaquip pressured IT&E' Elmer Esdrelon in the backcourt and with the latter worried of being caught with an eight-second violation, the Hoagaarden guard was forced to jump a pass off to Darwin Barbo. Barbo then had Peter Mendiola sticking to him like a leech thus when Esdrelon gambled on the risky pass, the ball just slipped the former's hands and went out of bounce.

With the Nationals getting back the leather, IT&E gave up a preemptive foul to save time, which read at 30.5 seconds. Jose Tumaquip trooped to the stripe and made both free throws to put icing on the cake, 74-68.

IT&E had the last two possessions in the game, but Darwin Barbo's easy layup fell short, while Brendon Talania failed to catch Kirk Schuler's pass. That had been the story for IT&E in the second half, as it wasted its several chances to grab the lead from the Nationals, as the former either missed what could have been easy shots or turned the ball over.

IT&E tied the game for the last time at 60-all, after Barbo's undergoal stab, with less than six minutes left in the game.

Aguon called a timeout and the lull produced dividends for the Nationals, who held IT&E scoreless for more than two minutes while scoring six points for a 66-60 margin.

Teams then had misses and errors in the ensuing plays with IT&E committing most of them, affecting its chances to force a deciding Game 2.

The IT&E Nationals tiff was a close match from start to finish with the former leading in the first half by only three, 40-37.

The Nationals snatched the driver's seat in the third with their balance offense. IT&E lost the lead, as it had only Barbo making more than one field goal in the third canto. Esdrelon and Bernard Aquino were the only other two IT&E players to light up the scoreboard in the third period, but the former was held to a triple and the latter had one field goal and went 1-for-4 from the stripe.

Barbo paced IT&E with 23 points, but was 1-for-6 from the free throw area in the third quarter where his team could have taken the lead if not for a bunch of muffed charities. The Nationals managed to hang on to a 57-53 advantage after IT&E's poor performance from the stripe in the third.

Free throw woes and errors continued to hit IT&E in the fourth quarter, while the Nationals leaned on its motion offense and trapping defense to thwart IT&E's repeated comeback bids.

Bud Light CNMI Nationals 74 – Iguel 21, Barcinas 8, Tumaquip 7, Lizama 7, Johnson 6, Mendiola 6, Villacrusis 5, Lee 3, Naraja 2.

Hoegaarden IT&E 68 – Barbo 23, Esdrelon 14, Guiab 12, Aquino 7, Schuler 6, Talania 2, Mendoza 2.

Scoring by quarters: 17-20, 37-40, 57-53, 74-68.

DIAZ

From Page 36

leadership on the court counted more than his offense.

Barcinas held his ground against IT&E's scoring machine, Elmer Esdrelon, and other point guards of the opposing team. Esdrelon finished with 14 points, but was held to three points in the second half and scoreless in the final canto.

Barcinas also made a crucial feed in the finals when he drove to the baseline and drew three defenders on him, before kicking off a pass to Jose Tumaquip. Tumaquip canned the open shot, giving the Nationals at 72-68 lead, with less than one minute left in the game.

Tony Diaz took the other MVP award for his consistency during the regular season. Diaz, who was also named scoring champion with his 196 points in eight games for an average of 24.5 points per match, helped Sixsevenoh finish third in the regular season.

Besides the MVP and scoring champion trophies, league organizer Basketball Association of Northern Marianas Islands and caging sponsor Budweiser handed out six more individual awards.

Sixsevenoh players got two more awards with Kelvin Fitial and Zack Diaz winning the best in rebounds and blocks plums.

Fitial collared 98 boards, 10 more of second placers West Tomokane of the Runnin' Rebels and Edwin Santos of Hi-5, and Ed Diaz of Sixsevenoh. All three collected 88 rebounds. Mel Manibusan of the Saints made it to the Top 5 with his 84 boards.

Zack Diaz was one of the only two players who posted double digits in blocks with 16. The Sixers' Joe Wright was the other one with 10. The Nationals' Jack Lizama, Manibusan, and Fitial tallied seven each.

Hi-5's Wowie Abuel was the runaway winner in the assists division with his 64. IT&E's Elmer Esdrelon was second with 53, followed by the Runnin' Rebels' Mike Olaitiman (43), Tony Diaz (42), and Barcinas (41).

Esdrelon also went home with an individual award, getting the best in steals trophy. He logged 39 steals against Barcinas' 31. Tony Diaz had 27, while Sixsevenoh's Pete Lizama and the Nationals' Pete Iguel notched 24 each.

The Coach of the Year award went to the Nationals' Rufino Aguon, while the team sportsmanship trophy was handed to Sixsevenoh.

HOME

From Page 36

In 2006 the tournament moved to Seattle, expanding to 14 teams. Jerry Ayuyu took a team from Saipan called Attack Makpu to the title.

When the tourney moved to Boise, Idaho the next year, two more teams joined to make it sweet sixteen. Home cooking was enough to power the Attao boys and Adai Hao to the championship.

Las Vegas hosted in 2008 where a team led by Pete Roberto and Marco Peter from Washington emerged as champions.

Last year the traveling Chamolinians took their show to sunny San Diego. The field swelled to 18 teams. Jerome Delos Santos led Team Taga, a team that just drove down I-5 from Palmdale, to the title.

This year the tournament ballooned to 32 teams, half of them from Washington which made it easy for them to go to Kent where the games were played on five fields at Russell Park.

Joey Castro, who moved from Saipan to the States in 1992, managed the winning team of Island Boyz, which included the father/son combination of Mike "Rock" Guerrero at third base and his boys Swayze at shortstop and Mike Jr. in the outfield. The Island Boyz defeated Pac Chain from Boise, Idaho 9-8. The final play came when Swayze gunned a perfect throw to his dad who tagged out Frank Robert who was trying to stretch a double into a triple.

The MVP award went to Mike Roberto, son of Max, who went 4-for-4 with two homeruns, including the decisive one that staked the Island Boyz to their final lead.

A team from Arizona with A.J. Taitano at shortstop finished in third place. Last year's champs Team Taga placed fourth. Jerome's brother Jonathan "Kuni" and Joe Palacios flew from Guam to play for them. Team Faha from Saipan with sluggers Manny Sablan and Joey Dela Cruz placed fifth. The other team from Saipan, Sufa, had fun.

Next year the tournament moves back to Oregon with Portland serving as host. There may not be quite as many teams as this year but there will be at least a couple dozen. Anyone who enjoys seeing old friends and good softball action should plan to go. It's a good idea.

SONICS

From Page 36

failed to reach double figures in the first, 20-8.

In the second, Sonics kept the pressure on the Rollers and stretched their lead to 13 at the half, 38-25. The Rollers' Jason Palacios scored seven in the quarter to help get things going for his team, but the Sonics as a whole managed to trade baskets and held on to their lead.

Then in the third the Rollers' Brandon Alerio turned in eight points to help trim some points off the Sonics' margin, but his team still trailed by 10 going into the fourth quarter; Adrian Palacios led the Sonics in the third with six points.

The Sonics played with the lead for the whole game and although the Rollers mounted a comeback attempt, the game remained at least a two-possession scenario in the end, 66-62.

WEDNESDAY

Rollers C 55 – Sacramento 13, Iglesias 11, Diaz 9, Terregeyo 8, Billy 6, P Norita 4, Lee 2, Mendiola 2.

Saina 50 – Ferrer 14, Castro 12, Norita 10, Xia 6, Saturno 4, Tadifa 2, Weiliang 2.

Scoring by quarters: 8-6, 18-26, 33-38, 55-50.

TUESDAY

Sonics 66 – Ajoste 13, Galarse 13, A Palacios 10, Cadiang 8, Villanueva 8, Jeon 6, Barbo 4, Salas 2, Sola 2.

Rollers 1 62 – Alerio 17, J Palacios 11, DeLeon Guerrero 8, Torres 7, Metron 6, Norita 4, Reyes 4, Dongos 3.

Scoring by quarters – 20-8, 38-25, 52-43, 66-62.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Tampa Bay	88	57	.607	—
New York	88	58	.603	1/2
Boston	82	64	.562	6 1/2
Toronto	73	73	.500	15 1/2
Baltimore	58	88	.397	30 1/2

Central Division

Minnesota	87	58	.600	—
Chicago	79	66	.545	8
Detroit	72	74	.493	15 1/2
Kansas City	60	85	.414	27
Cleveland	59	86	.407	28

West Division

Texas	82	63	.566	—
Oakland	72	73	.497	10
Los Angeles	71	74	.490	11
Seattle	55	91	.377	27 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Philadelphia	86	61	.585	—
Atlanta	83	64	.565	3
Florida	73	72	.503	12
New York	73	73	.500	12 1/2
Washington	62	84	.425	23 1/2

Central Division

Cincinnati	83	63	.568	—
St. Louis	74	70	.514	8
Houston	70	76	.479	13
Milwaukee	67	78	.462	15 1/2
Chicago	65	81	.445	18
Pittsburgh	48	97	.331	34 1/2

West Division

San Diego	82	63	.566	—
San Francisco	82	64	.562	1/2
Colorado	80	66	.548	2 1/2
Los Angeles	72	74	.493	10 1/2
Arizona	58	88	.397	24 1/2

Yesterday's Games

Washington 4, Atlanta 2
Milwaukee 8, Houston 6, 10 innings
Colorado 9, San Diego 6
Cincinnati 7, Arizona 5
Philadelphia 10, Florida 5
N.Y. Mets 8, Pittsburgh 7
Chicago Cubs 7, St. Louis 3
San Francisco 2, L.A. Dodgers 1
Boston 5, Seattle 1
L.A. Angels 7, Cleveland 0
Baltimore 3, Toronto 1
Tampa Bay 4, N.Y. Yankees 3
Texas 11, Detroit 7
Minnesota 9, Chicago White Sox 3
Kansas City 6, Oakland 3

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Buraot edges Pacific Grocers, Ferrera Builders win

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Dave Sablan and Gil Gapor combined for 56 points to lead Buraot to an 85-83 victory over Pacific Grocers Wednesday night in the QQ Car Rental Basketball Cup at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Sablan started the game like a house on fire, scoring 14 points in the opening period, which was two more points than the entire Pacific Grocers' effort. With the former Sixer swingman doing damage, Buraot doubled their opponent's first quarter total, 24-12.

Pacific Grocers then made a move against Buraot with Sablan taking a breather in the second quarter. They trimmed the lead down to seven, 37-44, at the half thanks in part to Lerio Pagarao and Eugene Mangali's 12 and six points, respectively.

Sablan returned to action at the start of the second half and caught fire again, this time for 20 points in the third quarter and received nine markers in support from Gapor. Buraot went into the last period comfortably ahead by 14 points, 75-61.

The final score made this one look like a close game when in fact Buraot had it in the bag all along. Perhaps some of the Buraot bench players were left in a little long, but Sablan and Gapor came back on the court in time to close it out.

WALTER SUTHERLAND

Pacific Grocer's Lerio Pagarao slices to the hoop trying to ignite a late rally for his team in last Wednesday night's QQ Car Rental Basketball Cup matchup against Buraot at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Sablan sizzled for a game-high 36 points, while Gapor fired 20 in support.

Ferrera Builders 83, IT&E 73

In the second game, Fererra Builders dominated IT&E, 83-73, using plain old teamwork.

After a tight 21-19 first quarter, the Builders' defense tightened up and limited IT&E to only 12 points in the second period. The Builders shared the ball effectively on the other end and jumped out to a 15-point lead, 46-31, at halftime.

IT&E lost their rhythm after the Builders' breakout quarter and never recovered for the rest of the contest.

In the third period, the Builders punched IT&E in the mouth again, holding their opponents to 13 points, while extending their lead to 23 points, 67-44. The Builders eased off the gas pedal in the final quarter and allowed a 30-point offensive push by IT&E, but still won the game by 10 points, 83-73.

Notably, there were no standout offensive performances by the Builders' squad, however this group plays very well as a unit together, which may make them an even more dangerous team for their competition to watch out for.

First Game

Buraot 86 – Sablan 38, Gapor 20, Baotista 6, Manalo 6, Reyes 6, Capuli 5, Fernando 5.

Pacific Grocers 84 – Pagarao 27, Mangali 23, Pagarao 10, Javier 8, Lansang 8, Apelo 4, Dag 4.

Scoring by quarters: 24-12, 44-37, 75-61, 86-84.

Second Game

Fererra Builders 83 – Abuel 14, Abuy 14, Bernardo 13, Yabut 12, Mortos 9, Galulo 6, Serrano 6, Abedes 4, Demapan 3.

IT&E 73 – Devero 19, Tumaquip 12, Dayrit 8, B. Montano 8, Cutol 7, J. Montano 5, Park 5, Marion 4, Naraja 3, Lazona 2.

Scoring by Quarters – 21-19, 46-31, 67-44, 83-73.

PILCOWA caging eyes Oct. 12 opening, looks for sponsors

The Pilipino Contract Workers Association is planning to kick off the 2010 PILCOWA Basketball League on Oct. 12.

Coordinator Pando Muleta said the PILCOWA caging will only have competition in the open division and they are now looking for a sponsor for the league.

The same format, schedule, and rules from the past two editions of the annual league will still be implemented this year. Muleta added they are planning to schedule games every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at the JP Center Building Basketball Court, which has been the home of the PILCOWA caging in the last two seasons.

Trophies for the Top 3 finishers will be awarded at the end of the season, while organizers will also recognize the top individual performers—MVPs in the regular season and finals and winners of the various statistical departments (rebounds, assists, blocks, steals, and scoring).

A series of meetings between organizers and the coaches/representatives of interested teams will be set in the coming weeks before the tentative opening day to iron out details about the league.

Muleta said they are hoping to lure eight teams in the third season of the PILCOWA caging.

Last year, PILCOWA's open division drew five teams—2008 champion Diamond Ali'i, Noni, IT&E, New City International Construction, and Saipan Fresh. The league's masters division also lured five teams—Ebisuya, Wushin Corp., University of Loyola, Cool Water, and GEC Pawnshop.

Noni is this year's defending champion, as it swept Saipan Fresh in last season's best-of-three finals. Noni, which finished second to Diamond in the inaugural PILCOWA caging in 2008 when the former was then known as Chow Queen, won Games 1, 96-87, and 2 108-103, to surpass its performance in the maiden season.

The masters division finals last season went to the distance with Ebisuya winning the deciding Game 3, 78-74. Ebisuya took Game 1, 99-93, but University of Loyola extended the series after a 91-83 victory in Game 2. ***(Roselyn B. Monroyo)***

Unique Leapfrog race this Sunday

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Saipan Adventure Sports Club is holding the unique Leapfrog race this Sunday at Paupau Beach.

The race is a team event with two members of the squad running and biking together from the starting to the finish line. The running and biking legs are done alternately to cover all the nine stops of the race. Each stop covers a distance of about 1/2 mile for a total of about 8.5 miles.

Event organizer Lewie Tenorio said the basic strategy for the race is to pick a partner that closely matches one's ability in both biking and running. He added since both team members will be riding the same bike for the full course, the bike should fit both members. If not, teammates may be forced to adjust the seat and lose precious time.

The race will start at 7am, while registration will begin at 6:15am. From the starting line at Paupau Beach, runners and bikers will head to the Banzai Memorial and then return to the starting line for the finish.

Registration fee is $10 for non-SASC members and only $5 for members. Pay $15 to become a SASC member and join the race.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Tom Linden and Champ Untalan pose at the finish line after teaming up to win last year's Leapfrog race at Paupau Beach.

Bikers must wear helmets, while runners are encouraged to use running shoes.

This weekend's Leapfrog race will be the third time SASC is holding the one of a kind event.

Last year, more than 20 joined Leapfrog with former Marianas High School runner Champ Untalan and Tom Linden ruling the race. Untalan timed in at 45 minutes, while Liden submitted 45:16 for the best combined time of the day.

Another former MHS runner, Matthew Mancao, and Federico Fernandez came in at second place with their times of 46:32 and 47:50, respectively.

Inaugural Leapfrog winner Butch Sublemente and Ronald Villafria failed to defend their title last year when they dropped to third place. Sublemente completed the race in 47:23, while Villafria made it to the finish line at the 47:56 mark.

Meanwhile, Tenorio is encouraging interested participants of the weekend race to bring their own partners, as SASC could not guarantee the availability of a runner/biker for everybody.

Gatus, Salalila are SRCR September winners

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Leo Gatus, center, won the Saipan Radio Control Racers Club's monthly 1/10 Electric Short Course Class heat last Sunday at the As Lito Track. Jojo Saracho left, placed second and Rodney Catalla came in third.

Paul Salalila and Leo Gatus won the Saipan Radio Control Racers Club's September races in their respective 1/8 Nitro Truggy and 1/10 Electric Short Course classes last Sunday at the As Lito Track.

Salalila's Kyosho Strr-sponsored car came in first place in the 1/8 Nitro Truggy class out of a field of seven racers, while Rodney Catalla's Team Associated RC8T's car took runner-up honors. Leo Gatus' Kyosho Strr car rounded out the third spot and Salalila was also the top qualifier coming into the final heat.

Three Traxxas Slash sponsored cars swept the podium in the 1/10 Electric Short Course class. Top qualifier Gatus took first place out of a field of nine competitors, Jojo Saracho placed second, and Catalla finished third.

In addition to bragging rights, the two winners also took home IT&E beach chairs. The date of next months race has not yet been determined, but the SRCR is making plans on changing the lay out of the course.

There are over 20 active SRCR members who regularly take part in practices at the As Lito Track every Saturday from 2pm to 6pm. In addition, the SRCR also tries to hold a daylong monthly race once a month—usually a Sunday—from 9am to 5pm in their two racing classes. The public is welcome to check out the track to learn more about their sport hobby.

For more information about the active SRCR club, contact Catalla at 234-5911, 256-7119, or email drrc35@yahoo.com. ***(Walter Sutherland)***

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Nationals take Bud Cup crown

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The CNMI Nationals pose with their trophies and BANMI officials after beating IT&E in the finals of the Budweiser caging, 74-68, last Wednesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

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REPORTER

Hoegaarden IT&E finally ran out of luck this time.

Facing a team that pulled off come-from-behind wins in the past two games, the Bud Light CNMI Nationals proved to be the steadier squad in the home stretch, eking out a 74-68 victory against IT&E in the finals of the 2010 Budweiser Men's Basketball League last Wednesday Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The victory gave the Nationals the championship trophy in their first attempt, while the loss handed IT&E another bridesmaid finish. The victory also completed the Nationals sweep of the Budweiser caging after they went 8-0 in the regular season.

IT&E was runner-up to the Nationals in the regular season with the former's 7-1 record and tried to win Game 1 of the finals to force a rubber-match, but ran out of tricks

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Diaz, Barcinas clinch MVP awards

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The CNMI Nationals' Dan Barcinas and Becks Six-sevenoh's Tony Diaz took the most coveted individual awards in the 2010 Budweiser Men's Basketball League, winning MVP plums.

Barcinas was handed the Finals MVP trophy during a brief award ceremony at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium after helping the CNMI Nationals beat Hoegaarden IT&E in the championship game, 74-68, last Wednesday.

The former Mt. Carmel School stalwart was the second-highest scorer on the Nationals in the finals with eight, but his defensive effort and

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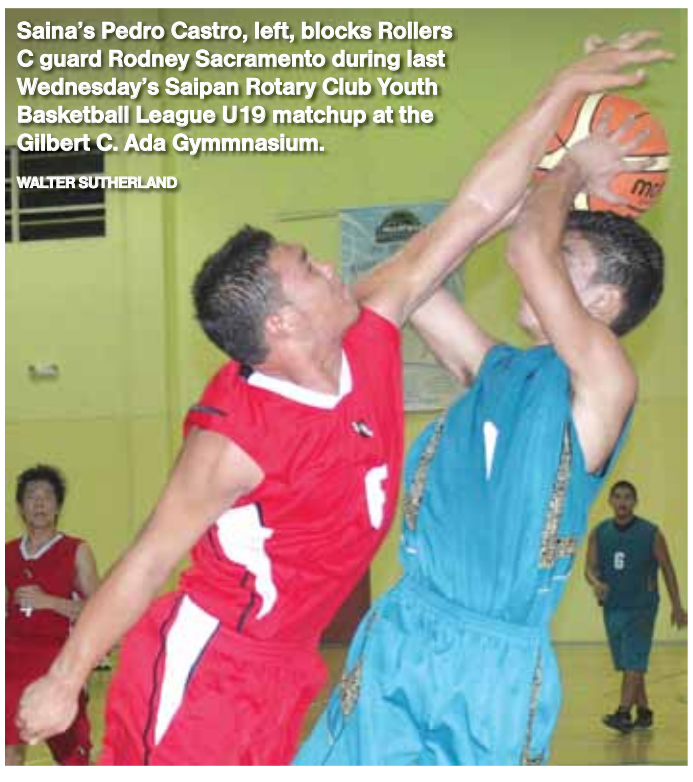
ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Finals MVP Dan Barcinas, center, poses with BANMI secretary general Michael White, left, and president Elias Rangamar during the awards ceremony for the Budweiser caging last Wednesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Sonics, Rollers C win in youth caging



Saina's Pedro Castro, left, blocks Rollers C guard Rodney Sacramento during last Wednesday's Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League U19 matchup at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymmnasium.

WALTER SUTHERLAND

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The Rollers C squad pulled off a last quarter upset over Saina, 55-50, Wednesday, while Sonics bested Rollers I, 66-62, Tuesday as the Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League U19 division continued at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Both teams started out slow on offense, but the Rollers C squad edged Saina, 8-6, in the opening period.

In the second quarter, Rollers' Rodney Sacramento scored eight of his team's 10 points, but Saina's Pedro Castro and Reinold Ferrer showed him up with 10 and eight points, respectively. Saina doubled the Rollers' scoring effort in the second to take a 26-18 lead at the half.

The Rollers made some defensive adjustments after half time and contained Saina to 12 points in the third period. Their offense also found some rhythm and trimmed it to a five-point game going into the final quarter, 33-38.

In the fourth, the Rollers' Ryan Iglesias scored seven points along with six and five points in support from teammates Damart Teregeyo and Sacramento, respectively.

Sonics 66, Rollers I 62

The Sonics' Bryan Ajoste and Leo Galarse each scored six points in the opening period of Tuesday's game to help give their team a healthy 12-point lead, while the Rollers offense got off to a shaky start and

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OFF THE BENCH

By BOB COLDEEN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Coldeen is a longtime journalist in the CNMI and is currently the news director of KSPN2

Home and away

Not all ideas are created equal. Some are better than others. The idea of having a softball tournament for guys who moved from Saipan to the States may not rank up there with the invention of the light bulb but it certainly was a bright idea.

In 2005 Saipan expatriates Kelvin Duenas, Jay Mundo, Jessie Attao, and Joey Castro organized a softball tournament in the great Northwest for the Labor Day weekend. Six teams competed in Salem, Oregon with a squad coming down from Portland taking the title.

From that humble beginning, the CNMI Labor Day Softball Tournament mushroomed into an event significant enough for families to plan their vacation around.

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